

# THE HOUR OF CHARM

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## U. S. - ORDER SHOW BIZ

### Hitler Bows to Benny Goodman

Several show biz personalities back from newly-occupied territories captured from the Axis report that the German radio, in a reversal of its line tooth-coming policy to weed out anything that isn't 100% 'Aryan', is now using Benny Goodman recordings for propaganda purposes. It sounds incredible but the Goodman music, together with Harry James and other Yank-made platters, are shortlisted by the Nazis into North Africa, Sicily and Italy, it's claimed, with the Hitler plugs sandwiched in between.

While obviously no attempts are made to identify the U. S.-made music, those who have heard it say the Goodman licentious-trade mark is unmistakable. The feeling prevails that, with the Nazis on the losing end of their literary campaign, it's become necessary to step up the propaganda battle via the use of the finest mediums available—and hence the resort to the Goodman and James music.

### Radio-Pix Names Of U. S. No Soap At Latin-Am. B.O.

by RAY JOSEPHS

Buenos Aires, Nov. 30.—Increasing number of U. S. films featuring radio personalities is worshipping distorts and exhibits in the Latin-American territory, who find that many of the recently arrived stars are absolutely no go in Latin America.

"Making the problem particularly difficult is the fact that some of the personalities who, riding on radio popularity, turned out to be strong U. S. boxoffice grossers, can't get beyond first base here, because audiences haven't had the radio buildup and, furthermore, don't understand."

(Continued on page 40)

### TAKES MAGIC NOW TO PRODUCE BOOZE

Tallahassee, Fla., Nov. 30.—With dwindling liquor stocks causing inebriates throughout the country to wonder where their next drink is coming from, Florida's supreme court ruled here Friday (26) that the art of producing drinks from an empty cocktail shaker is permissible by anyone—just so they do it.

The court affirmed in part and also partially reversed a Dade County Circuit court decision that Maurice Glazer, magician, had infringed and violated the trade name and performance of "Think-a-Drink Hoffman."

Although restraining Glazer from using the copyrighted address and the name "Think-a-Drink" Count Justice, the State Supreme court opinion reversed the lower court ruling against use of the magic act.

### Walds Winchell's Debut

Walds Winchell, 16-year-old daughter of Walter Winchell, probably will make her stage debut in a road-rehearsed "1935 Sister Elzen," being readied by Max Gordon. The Joseph Fields-Jerome Chodorow comedy will open Dec. 28, in Allentown, Pa.

Original "Elzen" production ran more than two years on Broadway and two other companies toured extensively. Columbia also made a picture version of the show.

### Miss America 1943 War-Minded Beaut, Nix on Cheesecake

Memphis, Nov. 30.

Miss America of 1943 is a changed woman.

Connoisseurs of the national beauty queen trend in the past wouldn't recognize the gal at all.

Something new has come out of Atlantic City.

Time was when an editor or a photographer or a newspaper cameraman could take a Miss America assignment to stride with full knowledge that he'd get art and story on a bathing beauty dollbaby with abundant s.s. and no regard for the works of Voltaire, Socrates or William Makepeace Thackeray. She practiced Dile Carnegie, but she didn't read him.

Times are no longer thus.

The Miss America for 1943 is no mere clothes horse; she's a horse about taking off her clothes. Nobody's gonna get any unnecessary bathing suit art of Jean Bartel, Cheesecake is definitely out. She's interested in the higher side of life. She's a new species. She's a college co-ed, from the University of Tennessee, who's been in the war, has majored in music and dramatics. In her current tour, she's out to raise the public interest in buying War Bonds and some of the multitude of products merchandised by Lever Bros. and other war do-it.

She positively refuses to pose for "Think-a-Drink Hoffman."

### NOT FAR BEHIND

USO Performers Proceeding to  
Gilberts to Give Shows

As evidence of the speed with which it's required to work in following one step behind the troops and the multiplicity of battle groups that'll be involved in the 1944 operation, USO-Camp Shows has already received a directive to send its entertainers into the newly recaptured Gilbert Islands in the Pacific.

It's even considered possible by the War Relocation Authority that some of the performers, touring the South Pacific base have already moved into the islands, in view of the fact that they were before the Allied invasion of the Gilberts.

Some of the shows are staged at night for Yanks stationed within 200 miles of the area.

### POSTWAR SETUP FOR FACTORIES

Some of Nation's Top Industrialists Would Underwrite Project of Supplying Entertainment for Employees As Morale Builder—Central Agency Would Supply Talent

#### WARTIME HYPO

by GEORGE ROSEN

A postwar circuit of stage shows aimed at stimulating workers on their return to private enterprise is currently shaping up as an entire new phase of show business in the peace to come. Some of the nation's top industrialists plan to underwrite the project.

Idea stems from the current success of the American Theatre Wing's series of "Luncheonette Poller" productions being channeled into the nation's war plants, and a general reaction (Continued on page 10)

### 'Xmas Package' Shows East-West

A series of "Christmas Week package" shows in which it's planned to line up the entire roster of Broadway entertainers from legit, vaudeville and presentation houses for performances in army hospitals in the New York metropolitan area, will be whipped up by the United Theatrical War Activities Committee.

The call for the army of Broadway performers goes out this week from (Continued on page 47)

### Marshall Field, With Chicago U, Branching Into Educational Pix

#### Premature Indeed

John Royal, head of the NBC International Division, who last week returned from a month's tour of the Italian and North African war zones, took a swipe at party-dizzy home-fronters.

"It doesn't seem fair," he cracked, "for people to be making plans and selling tickets for a Victory Ball with those fellows getting their guts shot out over there in Italy."

### USO-Camp Shows Budgets \$6,000,000 For Offshore Setup

Gearing its 1944 overseas schedule to keep pace with the War Dept.'s pouring of hundreds of thousands of additional troops into the global fighting fronts, USO-Camp Shows has just completed a reshuffling of its budget which will result in nearly \$6,000,000 going into the vast offshore entertainment program.

In contrast to the \$15,000 weekly outlay of only a few months ago, the Camp Shows exerts by the first of the year will have stepped up its overseas program at a point where between \$60,000 and \$70,000 a week will be required to channel the continuous flow of performers into the "foxbhole" circuits. As new fighting fronts are opened and the need for entertainment grows more acute the USO-CSI outlay will of necessity be increased. It's not only a case of recruiting the stars for the overseas assignment (as reported in "Variety" last week, at least 80% of the Hollywood names will go offshore during the next 12 months), but the roster of paid entertainers for the overseas circuits must also be stepped up to new highs. As the boys in 'U. S. A. shows and the girls in 'U. S. A. (Continued on page 38)

Presaging far-reaching developments in the educational film production field is the reported entry into picture business of Marshall Field, publisher of PM and the Chicago Sun, who is closing for the purchase of a Western Electric sub, Erpi Classroom Films. Understood that Chicago University is interested in the venture with Field.

Though Field may not go into production outside of the educational field in the immediate future, implications of the purchase of one of the most important film libraries in the educational field are that his initial venture may lead out of the classroom and into the commercial field.

Erpi (Electrical Research Products, Inc.), a subunit of Western Electric, was mainly concerned with the sale of sound equipment to theatres and studios when talking pictures first appeared.

W. F. has in recent years been gradually disposing of its film production units. Altec bought some of (Continued on page 47)

### 'BUDDY' ON U. S. WAX VIA TELEPHOTO OF MUSIC

Abe Lyman recorded an arrangement of Irving Berlin's "My Buddy" in N. Y. for EMI O'Brien's Hit label last Friday (26). O'Brien claims to have gotten a copy of the tune by telephoto from London. This was possible because This Is the Army, Inc., will publish the melody in the U. S. and priority for its transmission was obtained via Governmental channels.

Berlin wrote the tune for invention in "This Is the Army," which is now playing at the Palladium in London. He sold the rights to it recently to Louis Dreyfus, head of Chappell Ltd., London, for \$50,000. O'Brien turned the money over to British service artists—"again will duplicate his action with whatever profits the tune earns."



This is "THE HOUR OF CHARM"

# Nothing Manana About Mexico (And Its Show Biz) Right Now

**BY RAMON REACH  
(Ramon & Reini)**  
Mexico City, Nov. 30.  
The traditional Mexican expression known about this country (manana) has changed to *ahera* (right now). The most astounding transformation I saw here in the past two years.

For example, two years ago there was only one class night club, El Patio, owned and operated by the neighbors of the first night club in Mexico, the famous Miraflores. Within this short period the following class night clubs have sprung up: Ciro's, C. L. Lumbaldi's, situated in the best hotel in Mexico (Reform); the most modern, owned and operated by Mimi Sebastian, refugee from Paris; the Sans-Souci; soon to open by the most famous and operators of the Sans-Souci in Havana, Scorsy, Miguel Miro and Miguel Trier; who have spared no expense in the construction of this club patterned after the Cuban spot. It's located one block from Ciro's at the cost of \$60,000 pesos.

Another class spot to open on Dec. 15 is the Miraflores Club. The Latino American Apartment Building, newest and largest modern building in Mexico, located on the famous Reforma boulevard, also one block away from Ciro's. Incidentally, the Miraflores will be managed by Goggi, a suave Russian host, who operated a similar Russian bottle service in Moscow, and is doing something to do with the Casanova in Paris. So you can see just far the construction of foreign spots in the night club circuit.

**New Deluxers**  
This continues in the theater also. Theodore Gilford, backed by American capital, has a chain of five new "deluxe" picture houses equal to some of the best in the States; namely the Ido, Lindavista, Savoy and the Reforma. Nothing coming for opening in January, and the Margat, an established cinema bought by the Gilford syndicate. The Margat has been operating with first-run American pictures.

In the legitimate, for the first time.

(Continued on page 46)

## JR. REINHART MAY DO 'MIRACLE' FOR WARNERS

Signing of Wolfgang Reinhardt to producer contract at Warners is being indicated that the studio has made the "Miracle" picture for early filming. Son of the late Max Reinhardt, who staged "Miracle," was formerly at Metro, where he made the last Garbo picture. Bettie Davis has previously been mentioned for the "Miracle" role.

## Cantor 'Salutes' Kyser On Show Biz Tribute Teeoff

Radio Cantor will launch a tribute to Show Business tonight on his NBC show tonight (Wed.). The tribute will be a feature program, regular broadcast, and will comprise a tribute to those in the entertainment world who have furthered the war effort.

Initial "Salute" goes to Kay Kyser.

## Par Pacts 6 Scripters

Hollywood, Nov. 30.  
To bolster the Hollywood scenario staff six N. Y. writers have been signed, studio contracts. They were signed and selected by William Dozier, studio story head.  
The six in the group are Vincent McCullough, author of the best-seller "I Am Thinking of My Darling"; David Mitchell Wills, contributor to the Saturday Evening Post; the late Stephen Vincent Benét, author of the novel "The Old Man and the Sea"; Theodore Strauss, film critic of the New York Times; and David Howard and Richard Kesselbaum, two young playwrights.

## Volga Cheer for Adolf

Hollywood, Nov. 30.  
Walt Disney's Academy-winning cartoon, short, "Der Fuehrer's Week" will blow raspberries from the east. A front in a Russian translation to be released by the Soviet government in Moscow.  
Adaptation of dialog and lyrics for the Russian song "Der Fuehrer's Week" by Leonid Kinskey, composer and playwright.

## That Limb—Again

So Great Lakes knocked off Notre Dame Saturday 12 to 0.

May be you're reading the Notre Dame sports page. This Notre Dame outfit was not only the top football club of the season, it was better than the Four Horsemen bunch, above Rock's 30 point, probably the best South Bend team in the country.

Brother, when New York sports writers go—they really go. And you College with had the great eleven. Remember? A year ago, That Boston College was not just the team of the season, it was only heralded as the best team in all college football by the Four Horsemen.

Well, the final game on the Boston College schedule. Ummm! Well, Notre Dame sports with had the great eleven. Remember? A year ago, That Boston College was not just the team of the season, it was only heralded as the best team in all college football by the Four Horsemen.

It's all harmless enough. But these annual buildups need to be in the hands of the sports writers. Your papers have expanded on football, the past 20 years, the Notre Dame sports with had the great eleven. Remember? A year ago, That Boston College was not just the team of the season, it was only heralded as the best team in all college football by the Four Horsemen.

Yes, it was fine that in '23. The dailies almost allowed anyone to go to football. And while this was going on John Royal (NBC) was walking from Cleveland each week to see Big Ten football.

But to get back to last Saturday, and the game everybody kept secret. Where were the networks? Why, they didn't even bother to show the last quarter at Great Lakes. Did you happen to watch that fourth quarter?

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## 76th WEEK! KEN MURRAY'S "BLACKOUTS OF El Capitán Theatre, Hollywood, Cal.

The most original stage show that has been shown in Hollywood since "Ames 'n' Andy."

## Carroll Beats Serve Free Ride to Soldiers When Waiters Strike

Hollywood, Nov. 30.

Soldiers, sailors and marines got the surprise of their various military lives when...

the El Carroll theatre and ate turkey dinners; also gratis, served by waitresses armed in beads, ostrich plumes and emerald bracelets—the world's most "militaristic" according to the portal.

Cause of this unexpected philanthropy in a theatre-restaurant was a strike of 15 waiters, cooks and bar-keepers who had walked out because six kitchen checkgirls had refused to join.

Miscellaneous Restaurant Employes. When the strike was called, Carroll cancelled all reservations and invited about 200 service men to consume the food that night otherwise have been wasted.

Carroll is conferring with Attorney Jerry Giesler, suit for "striking out" the waiter against the Union as he can reopen his theatre-restaurant after being closed since Friday. Due to the walkout of waiters and kitchen help, Carroll took full page ads in downtown dailies to let him at "unions power of labor leaders." Carroll gives his side of the controversy under the subheading, "I suppose you are fed up with reading about union strikes. I know I am, but here's one you should read. It will make you wonder what America is coming to."

Carroll was called, according to Carroll, when he threatened court action after union failed to replace food checkers and cashiers.

## WAR WORKERS MAKE IT 'PISTON PACKING MAMA'

Detroit, Nov. 30.

"Piston Packing Mamas" has now turned into a war worker's motion picture. Gals at the Wright aeronautical plant of the Hudson Motor Co. here have strong their own lyrics on the popular tune.

The doctored-up version of the tune is the "Piston Packing Mamas" and goes like this:  
"Working hard—  
But we are having fun.  
We know if we do our work well,  
We will soon be won."

Chorus:  
"Don't lay that piston down, babe,  
Don't lay that piston down,  
You're for the 'Piston' outfit,  
Yanks."

The company reports that airplane motor production is going up and what's more the gals have elected a "Piston Packing Queen."

# THE THINKER

By ALAN LIPSCOTT

The thinker in radio is not a myth. He is the character who says: "I think I'll take this out!" But he can never think of anything to replace it with. Wholly, non-creative, and not at all able, he usually sits at the head of the conference table. And keeps creative people in a daze. "I think this is not good radio!" "I think this is old hat!" "I think this is not for the farmer!" While everyone else thinks the thinker is as important to the show. As a live man is to an embalmer.

The thinker has a 50% chance with... And yet God never favors him, because he always says "No" when he should be saying "Cause I think that radio can do without any of them."

## New York Runaround

By Radie Harris

Conversation overheard in Shubert's Alley between an incipient Orson Welles and an embryonic Maurice Evans.

"How... you like your... 'The fine old technique is the soul of brevity.'"  
1st actor: "What do you mean?"  
2nd actor: "Well, when he yikes he says, 'When he doesn't he gets another."

## EXCLUSIVELY YOURS

Guy Bolton has been commissioned by Metro to write another "Gran Hotel" for "Weekend At the Waldorf," which will feature an all-star cast including Katharine Hepburn, William Powell and Lash LeRue. Arthur Hornblow, producer of this saga, checked in from Hollywood (30) and surprised—registered at the Waldorf. "When Gertrude Lawrence refused Susan and at Maria Vassiliou, 15, Mrs. F.R. was a big success... he is conspicuous in the audience by her presence, but then was drawn away. John Golden opening if he weren't... as soon as John was drawn away, "Yuletide" was a terrible success. John Golden's California ranch he complete another new play, an act and a half of which is already written while Victor Freelandy backed Jesse Bayle Landis cut her birthday cake, she wished that Saragony "Get Away Old Man" was a big success... she's one of its angels. If Norma Shearer has disappeared from Hollywood and New York scenes, it's because she's at the Atlanta Biltmore, to be near her husband, Martin Aronson, who has a good deal in Georgia.

Jimmie Durante has leased a penthouse apartment on Park avenue but is retaining his room at the Astor—because he wants a "good" address.

## HEART TO HART

Mary on Broadway are discussing the suetly appointments of P.T. Peter Laid Hanes for the apartment may be accepted her/his drink routine, which was shortstopper in Boston, seemed because he was.

It no one is more appreciative than Moss Hart, copy of the play to him, he dedicated it:

"To Peter Laid Hanes who took the biggest Connel, and like a great gentleman."

## BULLETIN BOARD

Mike Todd and Warner... are huddling over the possibilities of bringing "Mississippi Belle" to Broadway before it hits the screens. This is the musical adapted from Clemens Ripley's "Mississippi Lady," which Cole Porter scored for WB last season. Very much in the style of "Show Boat," "Belle" is so enthralling and so many possibilities to duplicate that memorable musical, that he has Todd hyped, too. Now if Jack Warner can be equally sold on the switch, "Oklahoma" won't be the only sale to have stirred Rex Stevens. Instead, Cowan will present the Met sangard in a screen version of "The Royal Vagabond," yesterday musical comedy success... If Whitford Kane hasn't one of the fatter roles of his long career in Street Astor, it won't be his fault. He wrote the play himself, in collaboration with a former pupil, and will be seen as a newspaper reporter. Play is to have a Cleveland tryout in mid-January... Tullough Bankhead, all rumors to the contrary, has turned down the Larn Fortune role in "There Shall Be No Night."

## IT HAPPENED TO 'LASSIE'

Now that "Lassie Come Home" (M-G) has been acclaimed one of the finest pictures of the year, it recalls the time when it was first published as a novel, and one of the literary critics in reviewing the book accredited the story to authorship by the late Mrs. Helen Warriner.

Whereupon the flattered but somewhat abashed Hatch forwarded the notice to Eric Knight, its actual author, with the comment, "It shouldn't happen to a dog!"

## TURTLE DOVE

Now that "Voice of the Turtle" is soaring its Broadway opening, John Van Druten isn't so sure that he shouldn't have changed the name. He has a premonition that all his practical-joking friends will hit his balloons at the Gotham with little turtles bearing unwholesome messages on their backs.

A typical Peter, two couple, sitting in front of us at a performance of "Ole Ole" are enthralled where where Obello commands Delemons to bring him her handkerchief.

As Paul Brenner grew more prepotent in his command, and Uta Hagen whistled knowingly, "Just like Angel Street!"

## Jeannette MacDonald's 'MASTER RACE' 1ST ON \$5,500 ON N. O. 1-NITER GOLDEN'S INDIE SKED

New Orleans, Nov. 30.

Jeannette MacDonald made her second appearance here at the New Orleans 1-Niter on Nov. 25, and filled the Municipal Auditorium with 200 standing. The presenters, New from her Golden's Company, as vice-president, Company's first picture "The Master Race" scheduled for \$5,500. distribution by RKO.





## Plans Set to Unveil Show Biz Service Flag On B'way on Dec. 7

## Metro's Yule Package To Men in Service

## 40-Page Booklet Records Pix Work in Dimes Drive

Printed record of the film industry's participation in the March of Dimes campaign, a 40-page booklet titled 'So They May Walk Again,' is

Nicholas M. Schenek, national chairman of the industry campaign, reveals that a net total of \$2,110,539 was raised, out of an over-all total of \$5,648,419, or nearly 40%.

## Thomson SAG

### Post to Dales

## 11th Naval Dist. Budget For Entertainment Hiked

Eighty-nine shows, playing to over 95,000 attendance, were booked in this district in one month (Oct.). For a time, big names in show biz, bypassed San Diego area but Metro came to the rescue. Sunday's (12/1) program at the Naval Hospital and Air Station on North Island hit the jackpot with Mickey Rooney, Ginny Simms, Virginia O'Brien, Gloria de Haven, Xavier Cugat and his orch., and George Murphy as emcee. Same week, Bob Hope aired from Camp Pendleton.

## U.S. Tries 26 Shorts To Head Off Inflation

Cummings will huddle with Universal on briefs dealing with the food situation and Hettinger will

**Soviet Guerrilla Pic**

The People's Avengers', new Soviet war documentary film made by Soviet cameramen working with guerrillas behind the enemy lines, was announced by the Russian Embassy here.

## Show Biz Mobilizes To Aid Nat'l War Fund Drive

While vouching, along with the other show biz representatives, in attendance, for the full support of Equity in the campaign for funds, Paul Dullzell, exec secretary, stated that it's time; too, the performer was given some consideration. As pointed out by Dullzell, the actor is always ready, whenever called, to do a job on behalf of the war effort or any cause advanced by the Government, but that it's no sooner accomplished

Cited by Dullzell as an illustration of the 'lack of consideration' is the new admission tax proposal which will work to the detriment of show biz. Nevertheless, the Equity executives assured Farley, the actor stands ready to render, as in the past, the best he knows how to help speed the victory.

Lurchon was called by James Sauter as head of the entertainment industry committees working in behalf of the War Fund.

## ELLA LOGAN WOWS YANK TROOPS IN ITALY SECTOR

The troops applauded Miss Logan and Edith De Aney, dancer, who made the overseas trip to fulfill the wish of her husband, Sgt. Jack Firestein, of Baltimore, who was killed in the North African fighting. The two performers, with Jerry Shelton, accordionist, have been touring North African rest camps and hos-

## U. S. Rollcall

**Pvt. Goldstein's Citation**  
For heroic service in the Tunisian campaign last spring, a former film exchange booker, Pvt. Harold A. Goldstein, has been awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in the rescue of a wounded comrade and the slaying of a wounded enemy near Station de Sidre Nair, Tunis, in a tank battle last April.

A former bookkeeper in the N. Y. exchange of Universal, he was for three years in charge of booking the N. Y. (Manhattan) territory for U. N. under Leo Simon, U's head booker over the N. Y.-New Jersey-Long Island territory. Simon received a letter from Goldstein Friday (26) from North Africa, where he is presently in an replacement center. Goldstein enlisted about 18 months ago, according to Simon.

The citation, copy of which was received by Simon, points to the rescue made while a tank was under fire, saving a buddy, and adds: 'He then assisted his platoon leader in locating a missing crew member and was found five feet from his burning tank. Despite the intense heat, exploding shells in the tank and close direct enemy machine-gun fire, he assisted in carrying the wounded man to cover and in administering first-aid treatment for him.'

**Sullivan's Operation.**  
Neil Sullivan, 48, RKO Pathe News cameraman, who received the Purple Heart decoration, returned to New York last week for a leg operation.

**Lewis, McKiltrick Go In**  
Kansas City, Nov. 30.  
James Lewis, manager of the RKO branch here; Army.  
Raymond McKiltrick, booker at the same exchange, Mexico.

## \$8,000,000 to \$9,000,000 Pix Rentals This Year From Army Camp Theatres

## SOPEG Sends 500 Xmas Gifts to Men in Service

Over 500 Christmas packages have been sent out by the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild. Local 109 of the CIO, to members now in the armed forces in this country and overseas.

Union represents the white-collar workers in most of the home offices of film companies, exchanges and theatres.

## OWI Overseas Pic Plan Stepped Up

As a prelude to the large-scale activity seen "around the corner" for the OWI, the Overseas Film Bureau is launching American films into newly-occupied zones to thus pave the way for reorientation of civilian populations, Robert Riskin, head of the division, arrived in London Monday (29) to check on the operation of the film setup to date. Riskin, who will look into the future plans for film distribution in the various theatre of operations, will discuss with American and British officials the various film problems pertinent to the war and later visit other areas for similar

On the heels of the certainty of Congressional approval of the \$5,000,000 allotment for expanded OWI overseas activity, guaranteeing the Film Division a sizable chunk of the budget, the OWI is now in a position to develop looking toward 1944 and the opening up of liberated countries currently under Nazi domination. Setup involves the present "indetermination" of the OWI, which has left the film industry unfamiliar with the foreign markets to which they are being groomed for overseas assignments. Also an exhaustive report from the Film Section is being prepared. The OWI is currently being whipped into shape overseas which is due immediately at Riskin's office. It will form the basis for the 1944 program being developed by OWI, setting as many as possible of the pix with superimposed titles into the variousous countries to lay the groundwork for

Data being submitted by the Psychological Warfare Bureau will include details of all the material the OWI by the major companies and released to date, public reaction to such pix (thus permitting a better determination of the type of escapist-propaganda fare that best appeals with the civilian populace), the theatre availability, etc.

Holding itself in readiness, the OWI has upped the superimposed subtitles to 14 languages-instead of the previous seven. Normal operations, it's pointed out, involving the transfer of the manifold activities to the major companies with their civilian staffs, cannot be expected until the

## Charles Skouras Will Chairman 4th War Loan

Charles Skouras, president of Fox West Coast Theatres, will serve as chairman of the film industry campaign in the Fourth War Loan drive from Jan. 1 to Feb. 15. S. I. Bailey, chairman of the Activities Committee, will head the theatres division.

The U. S. Treasury, with an obligation of \$14,000,000,000 in War Bond sales, is counting on the industry's proven ability to showman-ship the drive. Skouras, who is expected to select his co-workers in the next few days, stated that "The success of the industry's participation will depend mainly upon motion picture theatre patrons and exhibitors throughout the country."

**N.Y. to L.A.**  
Emmett Callahan.  
Perry Charles.  
Sam Dembow, Jr.  
Tom Fizdale.  
Leonard Goldenison.  
Harry Levine.  
Lou Lusty.  
Bert Prager.  
Paul Small.

Film rentals from army camp theatres in the continental U.S.A., while held down by major distributors, are estimated likely to total between \$8,000,000 and \$9,000,000 for the year ending Dec. 31, 1943. In Europe, of course, far lower than it would be from similar bookings from regular commercial accounts since rentals are based on the low admission scales prevailing at army theatres. Army theatres, meantime, are regarded as a potentially healthy source of excellent equipment for commercial theatres when the war ends. Believed that more than 750,000 seats, hundreds of projectors and large quantities of air-cooling equipment will be available from this source for postwar theatre construction and remodeling.

It is considered unlikely, however, that such supplies would be dumped on the market in quantities too large to be absorbed without crippling manufacturers of theatre supplies. Probable that army theatre equipment will be released at considered intervals for purchase over extended periods.

**Laraine Day Squawks  
Brasshats Monopolize  
Femme Stars on Tour**

Hollywood, Nov. 30. — Laraine Day (Yesterday's Girl) claimed that commissionaires were monopolizing most of the time of film stars making camp tours, leaving the glamour girls few opportunities to mix with the G.I.s. Miss Day delivered her beef to the Hollywood Victory Committee, stating that this had been her experience during the last camp tour. She added that when on the tour notes with other actresses who visited the camps, she discovered that they had run into the same sort of thing. Miss Day, who is married to an enlisted man, Pvt. Ray Hendricks, explained that the officers "were as sweet as could be, but I went on to the entertainment hall and the women and I didn't get much chance to do it."

Ann Sothorn, who is the wife of an officer, Lieut. Robert Sterling, reported that she took no chances on her recent tour. 'When I arrived at camp,' she said, 'I would tell the special service officers that I had come to entertain the enlisted personnel, and that teas and dinner parties in the officers' clubs were out. So with everything understood right at the start, I had no trouble.'

## Shrine Ice Show Will Cheer Wounded Warriors

Seattle, Nov. 30.  
Annual Shrine Ice Carnival, set for December 1 to 4, will have Harris Legg and Murray Galbraith as stars, with Seattle Skating Club furnishing members for ensemble work. Legg, in the Navy at Livermore, and Galbraith, in the Army Air Forces at San Luis Obispo, will receive leaves to appear in the carnival.  
Shriners will entertain wounded soldiers, sailors and marines who are recuperating in local hospitals as well as nurses engaged in infantile

**L.A. to N.Y.**  
Joan Bennett.  
George Brown.

Lloyd Brownfield,  
 Kitty Carlisle,  
 Lloyd Coulter,  
 Marjorie Davies,  
 Myron Dutton,  
 Steve Edwards,  
 Barbara Everest,  
 L. Wolfe Gilbert,  
 John Gordon,  
 Sgt. Richard E. Hall,  
 Al Horwitz,  
 Hal Hudson,  
 Russ Johnston,  
 Sgt. Jerry Lawrence,  
 Luigi Luraschi,  
 Bob Moss,  
 Carroll O'Meara,  
 William Periberg,  
 Sid Rogien,  
 William Saa,  
 Charles Samuels,  
 George Seaton,  
 Ginny Simms,  
 Walter Wanger,  
 Jim West,  
 Dame May Whitty.

# WORLD WAR II AT THE BOX OFFICE

## Question Size of Foreign Markets When Lend-Lease No Longer Needed

ven as film company presidents are scanning recommendations for their foreign departments for motives on foreign markets on the heels of Office of War Information distribution units overseas, major studios are viewing the entire foreign situation regarding U. S. product with caution.

One of the most important points raised by top ranking industry executives is how much of a market will there be for American pictures when the United Nations no longer need out-of-lease and other help? The continuation of operations abroad at normal levels is described as a powder keg which may blow.

Caution is that film companies must be made more self-sustaining via the domestic market. Foreign earnings, unusually high this year and normally profitable, are regarded as purely in line with the difficulties and uncertainties confronting U. S. picture operators in foreign waters.

Highlighting the foreign problem are recent moves by J. Arthur Rank, who, where queues of movie playing time for British product in the U. S. has been initiated. At the same time, the nucleus of a world-wide distribution organization to handle British films has been established in the British Commonwealth Film Corp. Rank, Michael Balcon, Sam Smith and W. G. Hall are directors of this group.

For the present the BCFPC is handling only some 12 British titles to be distributed in liberated territories in the same fashion that the OWI is distributing American films. But purpose of the BCFPC, from reports, is to function as a distribution medium for British product in the same way that the OWI is.

It is pointed out by British sources, that while American companies have been quick to rebuild their distribution organizations on the Continent, British producers have been slow to do so, and that the BCFPC could serve such a purpose in due course.

Wickersham is backing up by retaining policy for the U. S. industry, so that any reverberations in the foreign market would not threaten the supremacy of domestic operations. "It being emphasized in trade circles."

Discussions among company presidents in recent weeks, meantime, have dealt largely with the foreign situation and the reestablishment of regular commercial distribution abroad as soon as the OWI is ready to wind up in the respective liberated areas.

**U EDITORS HACK AWAY AT 14 COMPLETED PIX**

Hollywood, Nov. 30. Universal's cutting room is getting the heaviest play in its history, with 14 features in various stages of editing.

The cutting process are "Patrick the Great," "Her Primitive Man," "Weiland Pass," "Moonlight in Vermont," "The Impassioned Calling of Death," "Ladies Courageous," "Phantom Lady," "Gung Ho," "The Munmy's Ghost," "All Bait," "Clap Out of the Old Block," "Swingline Johnny," and "Col. Sels Vets for Short."

**On Industry's 50th Anniversary**

Hollywood, Nov. 30. Oldtimers around Hollywood are being rounded up by Ralph Blum for Columbia's forthcoming short which will commemorate the golden anniversary of the industry.

Among those who are set for the pie are Mary Pickford, Alan Hale, Ronald Barrymore, Harry Carey, D. W. Griffith, C. B. DeMille and Tony Gaudio, cameraman.

**Tim Tagged Again**

Hollywood, Nov. 30. RKO handed a new director contract to Tim Whelan, abrogating the old pact which still had several months to run.

Next assignment for Whelan will be a musical starring Frank Sinatra.

## Studio Pay Tapers Off

Sacramento, Nov. 30. Motion picture wage earners did less pay in October than they did in September, but more than they did in October, 1942, according to records published by the California State Labor Statistics Bureau.

Average weekly wage for last month was \$71.32, compared with \$72.45 for September and \$58.15 for October a year ago.

## Cut Attendance Seen Result Of New Amus. Tax

Washington, Nov. 30. Senate Finance Committee has started work this week on the new bill which passed the House last Wednesday (24), with its 20% levy on admissions, 30% on nitery checks and 5% on pari-mutual grosses.

While there is no definite indication of what the Senate will do, general opinion here is that the amendment would will probably remain stuck with the increase bid.

There was only feeble protest in the House when the \$2,150,000,000 revenue measure rode through under a gag rule, with its 100% increase on theatre taxes.

Rep. Victor Wickersham, Oklahoma Democrat, protested that the theatre tax increase will destroy the industry. He said it would deprive lots of people of a chance to go to the movies.

Wickersham was backed up by Rep. Harold Knutson, Minnesota Republican, a ranking member of the (Continued on page 14)

## BAT RATE OF INCREASE SLOWS

With the National Theatres' output of around 515 houses on basis of earnings to date heading for a record-breaking gross operating profit, estimated at from \$16,000,000 to \$17,000,000 for 1943, a considerable increase during 1943 over 1942 in both gross and net profits for virtually all major chains is indicated.

Most important jump in earnings for the current year's operations is likely to be shown by RKO Theatres (around 100 houses including Monty Slinger), where the largest percentage-wise increase is being recorded. RKO Theatres will wind up fiscal year Dec. 31, 1943 with close to \$7,500,000 in profits before taxes, an increase of around \$3,500,000 gross over the previous year with a corresponding improvement in net profits which were reported at \$2,081,802 for 1942. RKO Theatres net profits for 1943 are likely to be from 350% to 400% over the 1941 figure of \$1,148,203.

Loew's, Warners and Paramount chains are also showing substantial losses in both gross and net profit over 1942.

Thus, the upward movement in earnings on a national basis for this year is assured, though the percentage of increase in both gross and net varies with different types of operation and corporate structure, and some seasonal variations have also been noted.

The steady increase in National Theatres' profits during the past two years will be marked with a further spurt in profit of between \$850,000 to \$1,000,000, for a net estimated at about \$4,350,000, possibly \$4,500,000, for the year ending Dec. 26, 1943.

National Theatres net was \$2,387,246 for 1941 and \$3,382,015 for 1942. While the monthly increases during 1943 have except for some cases, not been as large as during 1942 over 1941, the improvement in theatre receipts is regarded as highly satisfactory.

Taken into consideration, in this respect, is that towards the latter part of this year, relatively few admission scales have been revised upward.

## RKO's 39-Week Profit \$5,000,000; 20th Net Likely \$9,500,000 For 1943

### Morris Leaves Disney

Hollywood, Nov. 30. George F. Morris, turned in his resignation as secretary-treasurer of Walt Disney Productions, effective in two weeks, after 14 years on the job.

In addition, Morris gave up his chores as a director of the company and a member of the executive committee.

## Stall Rank Deal To Buy Korda Stock in UA

London, Nov. 30. Negotiations started under way between Arthur Rank and Sir Alexander Korda for purchase of the latter's stock in United Artists have been stalled twice.

Such a deal would, of course, be subject to unanimous approval by all of the UA owner-members.

Rank is interested in acquiring stock in an American distribution company primarily to secure more favorable releasing conditions for British pictures in the U. S.

**New Work Talk**

Talk of the possibility that Rank might extend his distribution setup to the U. S. has been persistent in New York film circles for weeks.

He might establish his own distribution in this country was no big surprise to American industry officials because they felt it only natural that the admitted leader of the British film business should want to expand into the profitable U. S. market.

Gaumont—was the last British company to have its own distribution setup in the U. S. Later the actual physical distribution was taken over by 20th-Fox.

With RKO Corp. net profit for the 39 weeks ending Oct. 1943, reported at \$5,000,000, net of \$7,500,000, or better for the full current year ending Dec. 31, a previously estimated by "Variety" as a new deficit in the cards. The fiscal figure may well be 10 times greater than the net of \$750,240 reported for the last fiscal year ending Dec. 31, 1942. Net of \$5,000,000 is after provision of \$1,000,000 reserve for rent price rises and post-war adjustments.

RKO profit for the first 29 weeks of 1943, after depreciation and reserves but before taxes, were \$9,947,217 as compared with \$898,892 in 1942 for the same period. Gross profits, before reserves and depreciation, for the 29 weeks, were \$11,914,106 as compared with gross of \$2,302,210 for the comparable period of 1942. The first 29 weeks of RKO operating during 1943 showed a net loss of \$389,853 while the profit of \$736,240 was reported for the full year ending Dec. 31, 1942.

N. Peter, attorney, RKO proxy, in a statement issued Monday (29), pointed out that RKO was covering all subsidiary companies, reached new high levels in each of the three divisions of 1943 year. Provision for income and excess profits taxes for the first nine months of 1943 amounted to \$4,000,000, against \$1,040,337 for the similar period of 1942. Provision for Federal income taxes for 1943 approximates cost of 1942, but return liability on a 42% basis as against 40% levied to cover 1942 tax liability.

**Big Year For 20th**

With 20th-Fox net profit expected to exceed \$2,000,000 in the third quarter ending Sept. 30, 1943, it is looking for final three months of year to swell corporation's net to about \$8,500,000, or approximately \$4.50 per common share. Final figures will be out soon on the first nine months ending Sept. 30, and are expected to hit \$6,000,000. 20th should be around \$1,000,000 profit for the first nine months ending June 30.

Final figures for year will depend on how much income is received from "National Theatre." Theatre operating company in which 20th-Fox holds 50% interest in (Continued on page 20)

# "Post-War Show Business"

THEME OF THE  
38th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER  
of  
**VARIETY**

## To Be Published Late In December

USUAL ADVERTISING RATES PREVAIL

## Special Exploitation Advantages

Reservations and Copy May Be Sent to Any Variety Office

NEW YORK 19 HOLLWOOD 28 CHICAGO 1 LONDON  
154 W. 46th St. 1708 No. Vine St. 54 W. Randolph St. 8 St. Martin's Pl.

## 'TREE IN K'LYN' FIRST FOR KAZAN AT 20TH

Hollywood, Nov. 30. Rita Kazan and 20th-Fox got together on a producer-director contract, with a provision permitting permitting Kazan to direct pictures produced by others in addition to his own. But she thought it had Kazan but he signed 20th.

Before he takes over the studio chore, Kazan will direct the new Franz Werfel legend play, "Jacobowsky and the Colonel," for 20th. N. Y. Theatre Guild. His film contract starts with "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," slated to roll in January.

## Mrs. Larry Kent and Son Have Close Call in Fire

Wife and son of Larry Kent, executive assistant to Sigmund Skouras, 20th-Fox exec, had a close call in their last week when a fire broke out in their apartment building in Phoenix, Arizona.

Mrs. Kent and her three-year-old son were rescued from the burning building by a couple of soldiers. The former suffered some burns, from ascaritis, though the boy was unharmed.

## To Roadshow 'Twain'

Decision to roadshow "Twain" to Mark Twain, Jesse L. Lasker, Jr., of Warner, reported to be in the hands of the studio, with runs in N. Y. and other cities, and 20th on the route release.







# The Story of a Masterpiece

Early in 1943, Norman Rockwell completed his famous series of paintings "The Four Freedoms." He had already achieved celebrity as an interpreter of America's folkways. Now his stature became international and he was the recipient of a global wave of acclaim. It was at this time that the artist conceived of a subject comparable in emotional appeal and perhaps even more challenging to his mature craftsmanship. He saw in Jennifer Jones as the simple girl of Lourdes in Franz Werfel's "The Song of Bernadette" the inspiration for one of his finest canvases. Here, through the medium of a lone girl, glorious and exalted, could be created a painting to inspire people in all walks of life. Many were the sketches prepared. Constantly, the artist deliberated over details of composition and color. With expert draughtsmanship he sought to capture what Franz Werfel had expressed in words. How well he succeeded is implicit in the reproduction of the finished work. This portrait of Bernadette will reach the hearts of all who see it—for in its subtle expressiveness, in every stroke of the brush—it conveys the essence of everything that was so movingly written into "The Song of Bernadette."—PEYTON BOSWELL, Jr., *Author of 'Modern American Painting,' Editor of 'The Art Digest.'*



with JENNIFER JONES • WILLIAM LUTHE • CHARLES BICKFORD • VINCENT PRICE • LEE J. COBB • GLADYS COOPER • Anne Revere • Roman Bohnen • Mary Anderson • Patricia Morrison • Aubrey Mather • Charles Dingle • Edith Barrett • Sig Ruman • Blanche Yurka • Irma Dean Walters • Marcel Dalio • Pedro de Cordoba • Bryant Cowan • Directed by **HENRY KING** • Produced by **WILLIAM PERLBERG** • Screen Play by **GEORGE SEATON** • William Goetz in Charge of Production










**NEEDFUL!**

**Warners'**  
**"Princess**  
**O'Rourke"**

NOW PLAYING IN 93 TERRITORIES,  
 AND A BOX-OFFICE SWEETHEART  
 IN EVERY ONE!



**Warners'**  
**"Old**  
**Acquaintance"**

5TH WEEK OF  
 EXTENDED RUN AT  
 N. Y. HOLLYWOOD.  
 NATIONWIDE  
 RELEASE NOW



Give War Bonds For Christmas!



# Warners' "Northern Pursuit"

NOW READY TO RIDE!

ERROL FLYNN IN ACTION WITH THE  
NORTHWEST MOUNTED POLICE!

Bette Davis  
and  
Miriam Hopkins  
in the topper  
for "Old Maid"

Always  
Warners  
are  
Foremost!

Jack L. Warner, Executive Producer



# 'Jack London Solid \$160,000, Frisco; 'Diary Smash 30G, 'Crazy Big 30G'

San Francisco, Nov. 30. Holiday prices and new production boosted all grosses. 'Jack London' (RKO) (11:45) took \$160,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) and 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$30,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) and 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$30,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) and 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$30,000.

## Broadway Grosses

**Estimated Total Gross This Week** (for 14 theatres) **\$646,000**  
**Total Gross Same Week Last Year** (based on 12 theatres) **\$461,800**

## Buff. on Beam Again; 'Crazy' Wow \$24,000

## 'Face It' Brisk 22G

Lafayetteville, N.C. (11:45) took \$24,000. 'Face It' (RKO) (11:45) took \$22,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$18,000. 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$15,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$18,000. 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$15,000.

## Estimates for This Week

**Alhambra** (F-W-C) (11:45) \$75,000. **North Star** (RKO) (12:00) \$24,000. **Guadalcanal** (WB) (12:00) \$18,000. **Crazy** (A) (10:30) \$15,000. **Guadalcanal** (WB) (12:00) \$18,000. **Crazy** (A) (10:30) \$15,000.

## Golden Gate (RKO) (2:30) \$55,000

Falcon and Co-Eds (RKO) (10:30) took \$55,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$18,000. 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$15,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$18,000. 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$15,000.

## Artists (Blumenfeld) (1:00) \$50,000

'Jack London' (RKO) (11:45) took \$50,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$18,000. 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$15,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$18,000. 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$15,000.

# 'Girl Crazy' Paces Hot K.C. With Wham 23G; 'Guadalcanal' Huge 16G

Kansas City, Nov. 30. New product all around town this week and grosses are up. 'Girl Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$23,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$16,000. 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$15,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$16,000.

## Estimates for This Week

**Equipe** (Uptown and Fairway (Fox-Midwest) (2:00, 2:45 and 7:00) took \$16,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$16,000. 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$15,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$16,000.

## Midland (Loews) (3:30) \$50,000

'Jack London' (RKO) (11:45) took \$50,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$18,000. 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$15,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$18,000. 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$15,000.

## North Star (RKO) (12:00) \$24,000

'Jack London' (RKO) (11:45) took \$24,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$18,000. 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$15,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$18,000. 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$15,000.

## 50-House N. Y. Preview For 'Higher' on New Year's Eve

Just the one night only: 'Higher' (RKO) (11:45) took \$10,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$18,000. 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$15,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$18,000. 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$15,000.

## Performances in all houses will be continuous, starting at 3 p.m. and ending until day after tomorrow.

'Jack London' (RKO) (11:45) took \$10,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$18,000. 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$15,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$18,000. 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$15,000.

## National Box Office Survey

Franklin D. Roosevelt (RKO) (11:45) took \$10,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$18,000. 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$15,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$18,000. 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$15,000.

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Tucker took others, satisfying \$180,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$18,000. 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$15,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$18,000. 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$15,000.

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# Davis-Hopkins Headed 'A' With Loud \$68,000, 3 Spots; 'Girl Crazy' Fat 66G in 4, 'Ghoul-Dracula' 10G

## Key City Grosses

**Estimated Total Gross This Week** (for 14 theatres) **\$113,300**  
**Total Gross Same Week Last Year** (based on 12 theatres) **\$2,340,500**

## Happy 'Vanities' Tall \$25,000, Cincy; 'Crazy' 19G, 'Old Oke' 9 1/2G

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## Los Angeles, Nov.

'Old Acquaintance' playing solo in three Warner Brothers and Girl (11:45) took \$10,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$18,000. 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$15,000. 'Guadalcanal' (WB) (12:00) took \$18,000. 'Crazy' (A) (10:30) took \$15,000.

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"Hi-Ho Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer!"



MICKEY ROONEY • JUDY GARLAND in "GIRL CRAZY" with Gil Stratton • Robert E. Strickland • "Rags" Ragland • June Allyson • Nancy Walker • Guy Kibbee • TOMMY DORSEY and his Orchestra • Screen Play by Fred F. Finklehoffe • Based Upon Musical Play "Girl Crazy" by Guy Bolton and Jack McGowan • Music by George Gershwin • Lyrics by Ira Gershwin • Directed by NORMAN TAUROG • Produced by ARTHUR FREED • An M-G-M Picture.

War Bonds for  
Christmas Gifts



"And a long run  
everywhere!"



It's going like C-R-A-Z-Y! Off to a run-  
away start! Seattle, the first date, broke  
all records for 12 years! And now box-  
offices everywhere are going c-r-a-z-y over  
"Girl Crazy". Yippee Mickey! Whoopee Judy!  
Advertised in national magazines! Advert-  
tised on the air waves!





**WALTER WANGER'S  
PRODUCTION**

**"GUNG HO!"**

**TO BE RELEASED DEC. 31st  
IS THE FIRST MOTION  
PICTURE TO DRAMATIZE  
THE HEROISM OF THE  
MARINE RAIDERS ON  
MAKIN ISLAND!**





*You asked for more*\*...LIKE 'FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS'—'LET'S FACE IT'—'TRUE TO LIFE'—'SO PROUDLY WE HAIL'—AND 'DIXIE'... *So here's*

**YOUR**

*No Time For Love*

*Henry Arack Hunts a House*

*Riding High*

*Minesweeper*

**From**

**Paramount**

\* *The New Block* OF FINE ENTERTAINMENTS THAT FILL THE OVERWHELMING EXHIBITOR DEMAND FOR MORE MUSICALS, COMEDIES AND ROMANCES, AS EXPRESSED IN MOTION PICTURE HERALD'S NATION-WIDE SURVEY





# Quent Reynolds Rounds Out Preem Philco-Variety 'Hall of Fame' Show

Addition of Quentin Reynolds for a commentator spot on the Philco-Variety "Radio Hall of Fame" radio program, which preems next Sunday (5) over the Blue Network from the latter sharing the time line with the debut program. Reynolds will segue into the Bob Hope spot, the latter sharing the time line with the debut program. Reynolds will segue into the Bob Hope spot, the latter sharing the time line with the debut program. Reynolds will segue into the Bob Hope spot, the latter sharing the time line with the debut program.

## One-Minute Shows

William Morris office has signed a novel team that puts on a one-minute show, Allan Kent and Austin H. Croome. Croome-Johnson, producers of the capsule ad singles heard on the networks, have been pacted by the agency. Team writes the words, music and produce, direct and cast the complete 60-second layout.

## Philco-Variety' Preeming Over 109-Station Net

The Blue Network's national affiliates cooperated magnificently with the homeoffice in clearing the 67 p.m. slot Sunday night, starting Dec. 5, when the Philco-Variety "Radio Hall of Fame" makes its debut. It entailed cancellation of \$180,000 in business, including Sachet Chi clothes, who has had that spot over WENR, Chicago, for some seven years. This doesn't occur, in this instance, until Jan. 16. The Blue's Chi outfit for Philco until then will be WCFM.

It required looking up a basic 109-stations (to be extended in time) for the Philco hour program, and in many instances that Sunday period had long been pledged to this or that advertiser. The cooperation extended the Blue's network sales manager, Pete Jaeger, was thus the more surprising.

## New NBC Outlet

WTBO, Cumberland, Md., 250-watt station owned by the Associated Broadcasting Corp. joins NBC Jan. 1 as a basic supplementary outlet. WTBO occupies the 1450 kilocycles band.

# \$200,000,000 TAKE FROM LISTENERS

Chicago, Nov. 30. — With an estimated \$200,000,000 roll-in into churches each year from radio listeners and local stations all over the country, the church is rapidly becoming "big business" in radio, indicative of the trend is Mutual's statement that 24% of the network's billings for the past 12 months comes from religious programs.

A check of Chicago's 16 stations reveals some figures which, if computed on a national basis, taking Chicago as a typical city, show that 20% of the Sunday programs of many of the larger stations are devoted to religion, while over 50% of the time on many of the smaller stations have church sponsors. Weekday programs of the smaller stations show a proportionately large amount of their time taken by religious sponsors.

Typical of the smaller stations is WAFB, 2,000-watt, with 9 1/4 hours on the air on Sunday sold to sponsors of religious programs. Weekdays show a solid 2 1/2 hours sold for this type of programs during the morning. A breakdown of the time purchased on this one station shows that 33% of their 72 hours on the air is given over to religion.

Phoney Preachers. Talks with church leaders have brought forth the comment that while many of the churches buying time are reputable organizations, others are on the fringe, and in a large percentage of cases outright "rackets."

Typical of this type of phoney preacher is one individual who, with an estimated take of more than \$10,000 a week, uses transcriptions on over 300 small stations. Listeners are urged to "give for the sake of the Lord," and directed to forward their contribution to a blind post office box.

For many of these phoney preachers, their only "church" is the microphone. (Continued on page 32)

# Union Pacific NBC Show Seen Pattern For Other Systems Going Network; Fear Postwar Air Travel Competish

## Showmanagement Survey After 38th Anni Number

In response to many inquiries regarding "Variety's" Showmanagement Survey for 1943, this review will not be included in the Anniversary Number this time, but will be made a special feature shortly after the publication of the Anniversary issue.

## Thompson Seen Getting Ford Biz From Maxon Co.

Detroit, Nov. 30. — The Ford account, now held by the Maxon agency, is expected to switch shortly to J. Walter Thompson, which is understood to have submitted a major budget radio program with name talent, to originate on the Coast.

Henry Stanton, vice-president of the Thompson agency in charge of the Chicago office and Danny Daner, of the Coast office, are currently huddling with Ford officials here.

## Mary Harris With Y.&R.

Mary Harris formerly a production assistant on the Phil Baker program and previously with Ruthrauff & Ryan, has joined the Young & Rubicam agency.

She assists Woody Klose, daytime radio director.

Chicago, Nov. 30. — Talks with several railroad executives here on the precedent-breaking coast-to-coast NBC Union Pacific railroad show which the air dan, 8, brought forth the interesting comment that several other transcontinental systems may go network, in the near future.

Angle on the railroads taking to the airways after years of sticking to magazines and newspapers is interpreted as a move on the part of the railroads to create a better public acceptance of the rails in the postwar era when new equipment and a more liberal attitude toward railroads in general is considered vital, if the roads are to compete with buses and air travel.

Comment here is that the biggies of the various systems usually keep one another pretty well out of their plans and that if one is making the plunge into radio that the other transcontinental roads will follow along in the near future.

Only other network show that was ever aired by a railroad was the "Empire Builder," sponsored by the Great Northern Railroad.

Young America, a combination cavalcade-variety show sponsored by the Union Pacific Railroad, makes its bow on the airways beginning Saturday Jan. 8, (4-430 CWT) over a 45-station NBC coast-to-coast hookup. Show is set for 52 weeks.

Show will consist of a vocal ensemble and orchestra directed by Josef Koesler, Nelson Olmstead, NBC story writer, soloists, guest stars and a variety of other performers in radio, operating personnel. As an additional feature the series will present personal appearances by the governors of the states served by the railroad. First guest governor will be Dwight D. Eisenhower of New York.

Program, which will be produced through the facilities of WOW, NBC Omaha affiliate, is unusual in several respects. This is the first time since the late Empire Builder series for the Great Northern Railroad on NBC that a railroad has used a coast-to-coast hookup. Cuples Co. is agency.

# Elgin Co. Dropping 'Man Behind Gun'

Chicago, Nov. 30. — "Man Behind the Gun," Elgin Watch Co. sponsored show on the CBS network, will be dropped by the watch company at the expiration of the 13 week cycle Dec. 25. Show, which was first sponsored last year and then dropped, was taken up by the Elgin Co. again in September. Sponsor has been on the fence as to whether to continue the show or drop it for the past month. CBS may keep the show on the air as a sustainer.

# CBS' All-Fem. Show Costs Record \$8,000 In Coast Auditions

Hollywood, Nov. 30. — The all-female program recently waxed by the Columbia Broadcasting System here said to be the most expensive audition every made on the Coast. It is understood the network shelled out about \$8,000 for a 24-piece band, chorus of 16, and the services of singer dance Pickens and comedienne Patsy Moran. Most of the coin went for band rehearsals, which covered a period of two weeks.

Hal Hudson, KXN program director, is now knitting the platter to New York for inspection by advertising agencies. The network is determined to keep the show 100% distaff.

## DAVIS CHI DIRECTOR FOR J. W. THOMPSON

Chicago, Nov. 30. — Tyler Davis, formerly radio director for the Kenyon & Eckhardt agency, New York, has been appointed radio director of the Chicago office of J. Walter Thompson. The appointment is effective Jan. 1. Tyler replaces Dick Gunn, who leaves program manager for WGN here on Dec. 6.

# "Post-War Show Business"

THEME OF THE

## 38th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER

of

# VARIETY

## To Be Published Late In December

USUAL ADVERTISING RATES PREVAIL

## Special Exploitation Advantages

Reservations and Copy May Be Sent to Any Variety Office

NEW YORK 19. 154 W. 46th St.	HOLLYWOOD 28. 1708 No. Vine St.	CHICAGO 1. 54 W. Randolph St.	LONDON 8 St. Martin's Pl.
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# Goodyear Accet. Goes to Y. & R.

Goodyear Rubber has transferred its account from the Kidner agency to Young & Rubicam, and, effective in mid-January, will drop its "Salute to Youth" program Tuesday nights on WFAA-NBC in favor of a Hollywood show probably starring Pidgeon.

Talent on "Youth" includes Raymond Patric's orchestra, Nadin Conner and Quentin Reynolds.

## Lawrence Vacates As Jack Carson Producer; Sticks to Lady Esther

Hollywood, Nov. 26. — Hal Lawrence, who succeeded Vic Knight as the producer of the Jack Carson show for Campbell Soup, is cutting it quits. Heretofore Lawrence will devote his full time to producing the Screen Guild program for Lady Esther.

## GEO. ROSEN NEW RADIO EDITOR OF 'VARIETY'

George Rosen is the new radio editor of "Variety." He has been on the bureau since 1935 and has an experienced general show business background. Rosen succeeded Nathan Bodec, who resigned to join the J. Walter Thompson agency in N. Y.



This advertisement now appearing in full pages  
in newspapers from coast to coast as a part of the  
1943-44 promotion of the NBC Parade of Stars.



9 out of the first 10

15 out of the first 20

33 out of the first 50

of all programs on the air!

The greatest  
shows in radio  
are on NBC

Repeatedly, season after season, national listener surveys have found that the programs of the National Broadcasting Company are the nation's choice. And this season that's true again!

Latest independent surveys place the NBC Parade of Stars far out in front. They show that the great majority of all the listeners questioned favor the top-flight shows which distinguish this station... the shows made possible by America's leading

advertisers and agencies and the outstanding talent they have assembled for your enjoyment.

See your radio page for complete programs. You'll agree that NBC broadcasting presents radio at its best... the best in entertainment, comedy, drama, music, education and news coverage.

No wonder NBC is the network most people listen to most... no wonder listening to NBC has become a national habit.

stay tuned to the **National Broadcasting Company**  
It's a National Habit

A SERVICE OF RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA

**WEAF**  
660  
on your dial

## Staid Philly Bulletin Selling Radio Log Listings, Including Sponsor's Tag

Philadelphia, Nov. 30.—The radio lot has become a source of revenue to the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin. The paper, largest evening daily in the U. S., has for a long time given deadpan listing to shows, in time network shows or "and broadcasts have been listed merely as 'variety' or 'music.' Local shows are just as badly.

Under a new arrangement, sponsors may obtain full listing with name of sponsor, name of show, etc., for a fee of \$2.50 for five weeks daily. Local advertising agencies have been taking advantage of this because paucity of space makes the listing in logs almost the only publicity outlet for their shows.

Recently the Bulletin notified advertising agencies that it will no longer list radio giveaway shows, quiz contests and the like. No reason was given for this ban.

Only way this type of show can be listed is through bought space.

Cumberland, Md.—Dale Roberts, general manager of WARM, Scranton, Pa., has resigned to become station manager of WTBO here, which takes place Dec. 1.

## WISMER AIRS GAME THE VERY HARD WAY

Youngstown, O., Nov. 30.

Harry Wismer, radio sports announcer for the Blue Network, who announced the Penn-Conn game Thursday (23) in Philadelphia, used practically every means of transportation except a boat to get from Detroit to the game, and was only five minutes late.

Wismer was on the altimeter & his Annasaurus when it was wrecked near Newton Falls, O., Wednesday night (23). He hitchhiked to Youngstown, took a bus from there to Philadelphia, a plane to New York's LaGuardia Airport, and from there took another plane for Philadelphia. Making the last leg of the trip by taxi, Wismer arrived at the field five minutes after the game began.

His announcement, which exceeded the first few plays.

Wismer's feat was described on air Thursday afternoon by Bankhead, who hoped Wismer got to the game on time.

## N.Y. Local Demands Pay For Musicians, Halts NBC Tele to Hospitals

N. Y. Local 802 of the AFM refused to allow NBC's television division to broadcast a performance of the "Pie Follies" with music from Madison Square Garden, N. Y., last night (Tuesday). Due to the ban, the show, aimed at various Army and Navy hospitals in the N. Y. area, was put on theater's same musical accompaniment.

Local's stance against picking up the accompanying melody was based on its conclusion that NBC cannot restrict transmission of such shows to receiving sets of soldiers. Since the public, too, could have picked it up, it was felt the "Follies" musicians should be paid the regular scale.

Union added that the public is getting enough free music as it is. Television scale is \$18 per man per hour, double for leader. NBC refused to pay it.

## Tele Outlet's Extension

Tele-Union, Washington, Nov. 30.

Tele-Union Productions, Inc., of Los Angeles, has been granted a modification of its construction permit by FCC. The commission extended until Feb. 1, 1934, the date for completion of its experimental relay station.

Tele-Union Productions - controls station WOLLA.

## Craven, FCC Member, Assails Setup, Takes Rap at U. S. Control of Radio

Washington, Nov. 30.—A member of the Federal Communications Commission on Tuesday (30) attacked the body in which he holds membership as "a wheelbarrow" and said that Government control of radio is "the worst control."

The FCC member is Commissioner T. A. M. Craven. He was testily told Tuesday by Senator Wheeler Bill to amend the Federal Communications Act, and is scheduled to resume his testimony tomorrow morning (Wed.).

For a Government official, Craven proved to be the best friend the broadcasters have had on the witness stand during the hearings. He disapproved of the previous conduct of chairman James E. Fly and Senator Wheeler concerning the question of soap operas. Craven declared that the public wants soap as it should be.

At one point in the proceedings, Craven was moved to remark: "During the Blue network hearing I wondered if I was in America. The official disagreed with Fly and Wheeler on the theory question of permitting those who felt themselves attacked a radio commentator to answer. He drew the idea out by saying: 'if every individual in the country operated his own radio station, his station would be valueless. The public would be confronted with a veritable babble of radio orators.'"

Craven, conceded that radio is "cloaked with a public rather than a private interest" but said it cannot become a common carrier and still be useful to the public.

Craven said that the broadcasters are now showing a trend to correct abuses themselves. But, if Congress wants to go further, he suggested provision in the law against misleading information, malicious intent to stir up racial and religious hatreds. But he insisted that violators should be tried in court, not by the FCC.

**Would Rotate Chairmanship**  
A new plan for rotation of the chairmanship of the FCC was suggested here yesterday (29) by Judge Eugene D. Sykes, former chairman of both FCC and its predecessor, the Federal Radio Commission.

Sykes pointed out that the seven communications commissioners are named for seven-year terms, and urged that chairmanship be rotated among them.

He favored the plan in the bill to divide the commission into two parts, one in charge of radio and the other in charge of commercial communications, and suggested in this connection that members be related between the units.

Sykes clashed once with Senator Burton K. Wheeler, chairman of the committee and co-author of the bill, over a provision which would prevent FCC "interference" with the business practices of life insurance companies. Sykes favored a strong provision to halt such interference.

"Business practices," said Wheeler, "cover a wide field. If FCC can't regulate the business practices of radio in the public interest, you might as well abolish the commission except to allocate frequencies. Radio would be uncontrolled. Wheeler said that a court would interpret 'business practices' to include programming, and then stations and networks would be free to put on the air whatever they wished.

**Bombie Courts Would Agree**  
Sykes felt that programs would not be so included by the courts but went on to add:

"There should be no supervision of programs. FCC has broad power to determine if the service of a station is in the public interest, convenience and service when the application for renewal comes up."

"This comes right back to regulating programs," said Wheeler. "Stations have complained about the fear of FCC because of the FCC powers. If FCC doesn't like certain commentators, they can take them off the air. This is what stations apparently want to get away from."

As was the case with many earlier witnesses, Sykes urged that the new bill set up a graduated scale of penalties for stations, in place of the present situation under which FCC must withdraw the license of a station for an infraction of the rules.

Wheeler said he was strongly in

favor of cutting the commission from seven to five members, but Sykes opposed this on the ground that there was too much work for only five men.

**Glade Lauds Cook**  
First witness yesterday was Earl J. Glade, mayor of Salt Lake City and operator of station KSL, CBS affiliate, the majority of whose stock is owned by the Mormon church.

Glade, past chairman of the NAB Code Committee and a member of its Labor Committee, praised its work. He also advocated limitations on the amount of advertising per program and improvements in the quality of the advertising copy. He estimated that about half the NAB station members followed the letter and spirit of the code.

Wheeler asked about the Seruton program (Drew Pearson), and Glade said he was not familiar with it. Then Wheeler asked about the Cater's Little Liver Pills and Ex-Lax programs, and said that the nets carrying them apparently do not live up to the code. Glade pointed out that Seruton, for example, was carried by the Blue, which is not a member of NAB.

"But until recently," Wheeler snapped back, "the Blue was part of NBC."

Glade, generally an ingratiation witness, argued that small stations need plenty of all types of advertising to keep them going and said that they frequently carry programs they should not in order to get money to remain in business.

Wheeler brought out that Glade's station is primarily interested in national advertising and leaves the local business to small outlets in Salt Lake City.

Glade agreed with Wheeler that stations which carry controversial programs should give time for the other side of the question. In the case of KSL, he said, "All news analysts have been taken off the air" (Continued on page 33)

## the move is to Mutual...

SPONSOR	PROGRAM	TO MUTUAL
AMERICAN CIGARETTE & CIGAR COMPANY	GRACIE FIELDS, "VICTORY SHOW"	OCTOBER 18
DUBONNET CORPORATION	XAVIER CUGAT, "YOUR DUBONNET DATE"	NOVEMBER 1
GRC LABORATORIES	RAY DADY, NEWS COMMENTATOR	NOVEMBER 1
METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER	FULTON OURSLER, "THE PEOPLE'S REPORTER"	NOVEMBER 15
LEWIS-HOWE COMPANY	JULIA SANDERSON, "LET'S BE CHARMING"	DECEMBER 2
CLARK BROTHERS CHEWING GUM COMPANY	JOHN J. ANTHONY, "GOOD WILL HOUR"	DECEMBER 5

...yes, the move is to Mutual

WATCH

MORE PEOPLE

MORE MONEY

MORE BUYING

THE COST OF THE

HAIR LAK MARKET

HAIR

UTAH'S NBC STATION

KSL-TV

Radio Station, 1000 South 300 West

● Last Sunday at midnight, New Yorkers  
listening to WNEW heard a top-flight  
transcribed dramatic thriller.

Its name: "Macbeth." Its cast: Maurice  
Evans and Judith Anderson.

Our listeners were not surprised.  
WNEW listeners are never surprised.

**WNEW**  
NEW YORK

REPRESENTED BY JOHN BLAIR & COMPANY





## and 81 Newspapers, too!

Rural Minnesota sees as well hears what Harry Aspleaf, KSTP's Farm Service Director, has to say.

No—we're not televising yet, but, in addition to broadcasting 18 popular programs weekly, Harry writes a by-lined column, "On the Minnesota Farm Front." And despite space limitations, 81 papers publish Harry's column each week, winning hosts of new friends and keeping old ones sold on KSTP and its Farm Service Director—the northwest's outstanding rural agriculturalist.

This is just one more way in which KSTP is constantly cultivating and enlarging its important rural audience. Other features of our current promotional campaign are:

1. Big ads in The Farmer (Minnesota circulation, 147,000).
2. Full-page ads in Land O'Lakes News, reaching 65,000 Minnesota farmers.
3. Audience-building ads in 344 rural newspapers.
4. Personal appearances of KSTP's Barn Dance group in Minnesota towns.
5. "Around Radio Row" (radio news-and-gossip column) published weekly by 70 country newspapers.

Sales-wise promotion like this adds an important plus to KSTP's effective and economical coverage of the rich Twin Cities Market. Let KSTP be the big selling job for you in Minnesota.

**50,000 WATTS ...**  
Clear Channel

Exclusive NBC Affiliate for the Twin Cities

**KSTP**

Represented nationally by  
Edward F. Kelly & Company

## Inventor Sees Craig Transmission System Opening Up Tele Network

Information about a new type of television transmission system, which it adopted may revolutionize the industry and end many of the headaches now bothering it, was revealed Monday (29) by Dr. Palmer H. Craig, the inventor.

Dr. Craig's system, in essence, consists of the transmission of a complete "frame" television image similar in many respects to the frame cast upon a film screen and depending for its quality of motion on such the same principle that gives "life" to film images—that is, a continuity of after-images retained by the eye through seeing a series of pictures move rapidly before it.

The Craig system eliminates completely the process of "scanning" at the source of transmission, and also removes the need for coaxial cables or automatic modulators.

### Visualizes Tele Network

The scientist said Monday that his system makes possible the formation of a television network similar to radio networks because all telecasts could be carried on ordinary telephone lines and because they would have a range approximately the same as those of present-day radio broadcasts, instead of 50 mile radius which now limits televising.

Dr. Craig has been working on his television system for 10 to 20 years, the last few under the auspices of the University of Florida, where he is head of the department of electrical engineering. He holds a score of patents on various electrical, radio and television devices.

The "Craig System," its inventor declared holds several advantages over present television methods. It will be said:

1. "Carry a televised program anywhere and broadcast it as far as today—the same distance with same power and wave lengths."

2. "Use of a 'wide band' of frequencies 'comparatively narrow, being of the same order as those used in radio broadcasting'."

3. "Make it possible for radio stations to convert to television quickly and use it presently allocated radio cycle space."

Pats. Cost at \$250,000

The "Craig System" has never been built in its entirety, the scientist said. Various parts of it have been built and tested experimentally. A complete Craig telecast would cost somewhere around \$250,000, and a "live electrical program" is now considering financing the experiments further, Dr. Craig is being sponsored by Victor Van Der Linde, a Chicago engineer formerly associated with the NBC.

As nearly as it can be described, Dr. Craig's system works like this: The image is focused on a photo-electric cell which emits gas ions; these pass through "pickup loops" following a variety of paths toward the "loops" the distance traveled and hence the lowering cost of tubes; a device in the transmitter selects the "tagged" elements and puts each into proper place for transmission; thus there occurs a continuous simultaneous transmission of all the elements in the image; this eliminates both the scanning process and the need for the enormous light intensities used to pick out the elements in an image.

On the receiving set, however, the scanning process goes on as before. Dr. Craig indicated that certain modifications would be necessary in the present cathode ray tubes, but said the adoption of his system would lead to simplification and hence to lowering the cost of tubes.

Dr. Craig said his telecast system would operate on the 40 to 60 kilocycles immediately above those used by standard broadcasting, and for this reason his telecasts would cover approximately the same distance. As in present television systems the accompanying sound would have to use separate audio channels.

The "Craig System" transmits 16 "frames" per second but this number could be raised to 30 per second to give greater "life." In his transmitter Craig uses a shutter similar to that in a film projector, and for the same purpose.

The scientist said that so far films give the best definition when used as the subjects on his transmitter, and that that is true of present-day television. He said that the smaller light intensities required would permit better outdoor telecasts.

## MBS Adds 2 in Texas

Two new affiliates in Texas have been added to the Mutual web as members of the Texas state network, a Mutual unit. The new outlets, both 1,000-watters are KFRO, Longview, and KBWD, Brownwood.

KFRO uses a frequency of 1370 kilocycles, and KBWD uses the 1390 band.

## Gilman Prowls H'wood for New Blue Net Site

Hollywood, Nov. 30.

Scouting sites for network studios is no new experience for Don Gilman, the Blue's westward division boss. He picked the first location for NBC now tentatively by Dealey and is responsible for the concentration of radio-hubs in Sunset boulevard. And here—hush again on the gravel for the Blue's new Coast headquarters.

On his return last week from meeting of Blue affiliate managers with Edward Noble, owner of the Blue, Gilman said that he had been identified by the headman to start looking at once for the ground site to house the Blue's triple enterprises—broadcasting, television and frequency modulation. That Gilman will keep his sights trained in the vicinity of Sunset and Vine, where zone and several really deals are already simmering.

Gilman hopes to have the site picked and a rough draft of the building plans ready when Noble comes west after the first of December to take in the Coast picture. The Blue can remain as tenants of the Radio City for a while longer of the war but both Noble and Gilman want to get into their own and as soon as after peace is possible and are eager to have everything in readiness for a start when building materials are released for private enterprise.

## OMAHA ASSN. SPONSORS MBS 'FREEDOM' SHOW

Omaha, Nov. 30.

Network show sponsored by an Omaha firm was announced Saturday (27) to start about Jan. 1 over 125 Mutual stations, when the Mutual Benefit Health and Annuity Assn. opens its "Freedom of Opportunity" program in conjunction with the U. S. Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Idea is to dramatize the careers of successful young men. The program for the Junior Chamber's outstanding young man award will have their stories told in the half hour from every Friday at 7:30 p.m. Deal is for 26 weeks, with the broadcast originating from Chicago.

## Morgan Held on Jave Show, Rapp Going Legit

Hollywood, Nov. 30.

Frank Morgan remains on the Maxwell House program until network work opens up for a show of his own but unless the switch is made by first of the year the comedian will have to get along without Phil Rapp's writing and direction. Rapp, who formerly wrote the entire java show and directed, is tied up with Morgan on a quasi-packaged arrangement for his own show and is withdrawing around first of the year to devote his time to playwrighting.

Broadway producers have two of Rapp's plays under consideration for early staging and he'll go east after first of the year to talk over production. Rapp came to radio from New York legit, having written Fanny Brice's "terral" for her stage successes.

Arthur "Buddy" Harris is latest addition to staff of mikesmen at KABC. He's received a medical discharge from Air Corps. He was announcer at KNAC here prior to induction.

## Payroll Traffic

Pittsburgh—Ed Rogers, from Washington, intent addition to announcing staff at WGAR, where he replaces Joe Muskivill, was revealed Monday (29) to take a post at WGAR, Cleveland.

Washington—Lee Chadwick, former WTOP publicity director, to WWCN, Asheville, N. C., as program director. Chadwick left WTOP to enter the Army and joined the Asheville station after receiving medical discharge.

New York—Mary Jane Kroll has been appointed director of women's programs at WABC. She joined the station 18 months ago, after leaving Fordlinton Dudley, where she was a food account exec.

San Antonio—Two newcomers on the distaff side join the KSTP staff as replacements for male personnel leaving in the draft. Replacing Ramsey Yelvington is Ardrey Planfelt, in the continuity department. Also new is Nita Oneda Caster.

Philadelphia—Fred Moore, WFIL engineer, last week resigned to join Blacklett, Sample & Hummer, in charge of transmissions.

Syracuse—Irving Kaufman, using the nom d'ether, "Happy Jim Parsons," goes in as m.c. on the WSYR morning variety "Timesquare" program Dec. 6, replacing Fred Jensen, pilot of the show for the past seven years. Jensen is transferring to WACE, rival Syracuse outlet.

## Toscanini, Jersey Radio Station Tries to Locate U.S. Relatives of Italian

The combined efforts of Arturo Toscanini and Giuseppe Lupis, director of Italian programs on WHOM, Jersey City, have succeeded in locating for Paolo Cusano, Tripoli, his relatives in the United States. Cusano had written several weeks ago to Toscanini explaining his desire to get in touch with his relatives here.

Toscanini passed the letter on to Lupis, who announced the fact over his "Home Front" program Nov. 21. Three days later, Mr. M. Mazzavelli Cusano, Jersey City, phoned Lupis to say that she was Paolo's aunt and that she knew where the rest of his relatives were to be found.

## DE LUXE BEER'S BLUE SHOW PREEMS DEC. 21

Chicago, Nov.

"Fox DeLuxe Variety Hall," new network show sponsored by the Fox DeLuxe Beer Company of Chicago, will probably take to the air Dec. 21. Starting date is contingent upon the Blue's clearing station time by that date. Show, which will originate from WLW, Cincinnati, will be aired Tuesdays 6:30-7 (CWT).

Carl Kraatz and Jack Scott, of Schweimert and Scott, account executives who set the show, explained that Blue Network stations in the middle west would be used at the beginning, expanding later.

Cost, deal was set for 52 weeks.

● For years smart folks have said—

"Why doesn't someone wake up  
and put on a night-time quality  
show Saturday morning?"

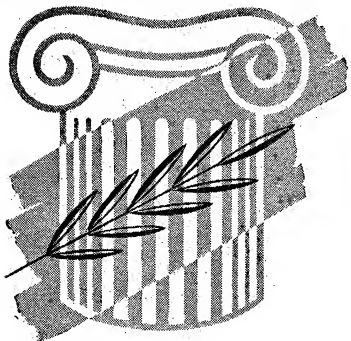
"Soap opera" is a long way from being washed up—but if you want honest, streamlined corn, dial your local NBC station next Saturday morning at 11:00 E.W.T. and you'll find that behind the soap bubbles is the kind of entertainment that promises a real rainbow...

"Hook 'n Ladder Follies"

Modestly yours,

Frank Novak





## NEXT SUNDAY... PHILCO

**inaugurates a new program of All-Star  
Entertainment... and a New Service  
to the radio listeners of America...**

# The Radio Hall of Fame

**a Radio Review of the Top Hits from all fields  
of entertainment, as judged and selected by**

## VARIETY

**LEADING AUTHORITY OF THE SHOW WORLD**

SUNDAY, at six o'clock in New York, a coast-to-coast hook-up of the Blue Network, a brand new idea, a sensational new program comes to the air. The Radio Hall of Fame makes its debut with... the first radio presentation of high lights from the new Army Air Forces show "Winged Victory", the smash hit of Broadway... Bob Hope... Jimmy Durante... Hildegarde... Rocco... Paul Whiteman and his orchestra... and Deems Taylor as master of ceremonies.

All-star entertainment, great names and famous artists... but more than that, a brand new service to the radio listeners of America! What the Academy Award is to the movies, what the Rose Bowl and the All-Star Games are to sports, what the Reader's Digest is to the magazines, the *Radio Hall of Fame* will be to the entire world of entertainment.

Variety Magazine, for thirty-eight years the leading authority and most influential publication in the show world, will be the judge and jury to bring this show of shows to radio. Every week, Abel Green, Editor-in-Chief and his nationwide board of editors and correspondents will comb Broadway,

Hollywood and the air waves, they will scan theatres, concerts, studios, night clubs and popular song centers in every part of the country. And every week they will judge and select the best... the top hits... the performances that make headline news, nationally or locally... for the Radio Hall of Fame.

Thus, by its very nature, this radio show of shows produces the greatest program of all-star entertainment ever conceived. Because every act, culled from every branch of the show world, is a hit, tried and proven. It gets a repeat performance on the Radio Hall of Fame because somewhere in its field it has been judged and chosen as the best.

Secondly, it brings a new and unique service to the radio listeners of America. A program they tune in not only for its top entertainment but to keep informed on the most significant, most successful and most worth-while events in the amusement world. For whenever a performance anywhere makes headline news in the field of entertainment, whenever it makes an outstanding record or becomes a topic of conversation among the well-informed, it will find a place for a rehearing on the Radio Hall of Fame.

And finally, it will be a source of inspiration and incentive to the entertainment profession itself. Many an artist, scene or program reaches the heights and is forever gone after a single performance. Many a budding genius makes a local sensation and years for a nationwide audience. All these—if they're truly tops—will have their chance and their audience on the Radio Hall of Fame.

Launching the Radio Hall of Fame now is a reflection of Philco's confidence in victory and its anticipation of the day when the achievements of Philco war research and production will be translated to the uses of peace... when the newest developments of modern science, in radio, phonographs, television, refrigeration and air conditioning will be yours under the famous Philco name.

★ ★ ★

Tune in to the premiere performance next Sunday... hear this week's top hits of the show world as judged and selected by Variety.

**BLUE NETWORK**

6 to 7 P. M. EASTERN WAR TIME

# PHILCO CORPORATION



## Inside Stuff—Radio

NBC has distributed to radio editors copies of W. W. Chapin's new book, "Seventy Thousand Miles of War." Chapin is on the network's compensation staff.

WLW, Cincinnati, distributed to the trade copies of the Nov. 27 issue of Liberty mag with a promotional bookmark describing the background and present staff communitarian connection with the station of Gregor Ziemer, whose piece in the same issue is titled "Barbed Wire for the Duration."

Ray Henley substituted for Fulton Lewis, Jr., over Mutual Friday (26) and took Roy Porter's place on the Ford Co.'s news program on the Blue Saturday and Sunday. Henley broadcast from Washington. Lewis was off the air two evenings last week because he could not obtain a plane reservation to the Coast. Fred Morrison, dispatched in advance, was hitch-hiking across the country by train, according to Lewis. The latter also traveled by train.

A closed circuit broadcast via Mutual was beamed Monday (28) for Seleney Import Corp. and DuPont distributors to pep up their interest in the Xavier Cugat stanza, "Your Dubonnet Date," which shifts from the Blue to Mutual tonight (Wednesday) at 8:30. It involved a three-way pickup from New York, Chicago and Los Angeles. Seleney execs were heard from N. Y., Miller McClintock, web prexy, spoke from Chicago, and Cugat did his spiel from the Coast.

Announcer Les Tremayne has been awarded a new contract under which he will share billing with Bob Crosby on the Sunday night NBC Old Gold show. The program henceforth will be announced as "Bob Crosby-Les Tremayne and Co."

### WHK-WCLE (Cleve.)

#### Cold Shoulder Rival WJW on Its Bow-In

The radio boys and advertising men here are still talking of the cold shoulder Cleveland's newest station, WJW, got from WHK-WCLE. When WJW went on the air (24), WGAR and WTAM both gave the new station a 15-minute sendoff. WGAR by remote broadcast from WJW's studio but with WGAR equipment, and WTAM came through with a program in its own studio.

Both stations extended welcomes to Bill O'Neill, new owner, and Station Manager Ed Paley. WGAR also paid for a six-column six-inch spread in each of the three daily papers welcoming the new station.

WHK, which had been getting both Mutual and Blue before WJW came up from Akron, surrendered its Blue programs to WJW and is now only Mutual.

### STATION PREZ TO RUN IN OHIO GOV. RACE

Toledo, Nov. 30. First definite indication that Francis Reams, president of the Community Broadcasting Co., operators of WTOL, would seek the Democratic gubernatorial nomination in next May's Ohio primary elections was seen when his law partner, Morton Neipp, requested nominating petitions from the Ohio Secretary of State's office in Columbus. It has been known that Reams has been contemplating the race next year.

Reams also is Collector of Internal Revenue in Toledo, and it is believed that a definite announcement of his candidacy has been withheld because of the Hatch Act, which prohibits federal civil service employees from active participation in politics. Close friends of Reams' are of the opinion he will submit his resignation as income tax collector in the Toledo district after the first of the year.

### Benson, WIL Prexy, Fined As Game Violator

St. Louis, Nov. 30. William A. Benson, prexy and general manager of WIL, pleaded guilty last week to charges of violating the State game laws by attempting to take migratory waterfowl with the aid of live decoys. He was fined \$100 by Justice of the Peace T. C. Knob at Elsberry Mo. Conservation Agent Charles L. Horner testified that the game law violations occurred on Nov. 14 at the Stinger Club, east of Old Monroe, Mo.

### 'Chicago Theatre of Air' Seeks Permanent Use Of 4,000-Seat Temple

Chicago, Nov. 30. WGN's experiment in taking over the 4,000-seat Medinah Temple here to air their "Chicago Theatre of the Air" show, has proven so successful that station officials are now dickering for the huge building for January and February. Tribune station has Dec. 11-18 booked and figures to make the deal permanent if the demand for seats continues.

Some 1,500 were turned away after 4,800 had been jammed into the temple at their last Saturday (27) show, according to Chicago police desk figures. Peculiar still to the situation is that while the primary reason for moving the show to the Temple was to take care of the scores of people who could not get seats in the 600-seat WGN studio auditorium, now they are turning them away by the hundreds in the larger spot.

### 'WAC Time' Co-op Series

Port Worth, Nov. 30. Under a cooperative sponsorship of leading local firms, a series of five-minute studio programs is being aired over KGKO, Monday through Saturday, saluting the Women's Army Corp. Series is titled "WAC Time."

Kansas City.—Gloria Spiegel added to the script-writing staff at KCKN.

## Slim Margin of Radio School Grads Poses Problem on Future Talent

### Scott's B'dcasts Will Move to B'way House

All of the broadcasts which Raymond Scott conducts on CBS for various staff singers will continue from the Capitol, N. Y., during Scott's stay at the house beginning Dec. 2. They will be done from the studio from which Major Bowser Sunday morning broadcasts for CBS originated. All told Scott does 14 shows weekly between Perry Como and others.

Scott's band at the Capitol will be composed mainly of CBS studio men and the idea of originating live broadcasts from the theatre is to obviate the necessity for then shuttling back and forth between the Capitol and CBS. Promotion of the studio at the theatre, of course, set up the plan. Scott's own show, Thursday 11:30 to midnight, will continue from Playhouse 2.

### Top Educators at Ch's School Broadcast Conf

Chicago, Nov. 30. Seventh annual meeting of the National Conference with headquarters here in Chicago Nov. 28-29-30 will lead educators and radio public service directors from all over the country in attendance.

Highlights of the meeting were a panel discussion on the subject "The Listener's Stake in American Radio," talks on "What Radio Should Mean to Do," and "Radio Propaganda and Foreign Broadcasting." Among the speakers were Col. Edward M. Kirby, chief of the radio branch, War Dept.; Don Francisco, chief of the radio division, CIAA; Al Crews, of NBC; Armand Hunter, head of the Northwestern University Radio School; R. S. Lambert, Canadian Broadcasting Corp.; and Michael Harris, general manager of WHCU, Illinois.

With only 16 1/2% of the students managing to graduate from the last four-year course at the Northwestern Univ. radio school as qualified announcers, radio executives here are beginning to wonder where the talent of the future is to come from. "Only 10 out of the 100 who started managed to graduate with our recommendation," said Armand Hunter, head of the school. On the other hand the summer radio school, made up in the main from folk already in the radio industry, was spectacularly successful, with 72 graduates out of 134 who took the course being placed in jobs immediately. Undoubtedly many more of them have obtained jobs since then.

Running in the various classifications of the 10 who graduated from the last year were one producer, two actors, three writers and four announcers.

Started in 1934 with a single course in radio acting, the school was expanded in 1938 by Al Crews who headed the department until last year when he resigned to join the production department of NBC. A half-hour radio show aired over WJLD is run in conjunction with the school to provide practical experience for the students.

### Arch Gunnison, Wife, Jap Prisoners, Return

Royal Arch Gunnison, Mutual Radio's radio reporter who has been with the Japs, along with his wife, since the fall of Manila, will be on the rescue ship Gripsholm when the docks at an unnamed American port on or about Dec. 2. Gunnison remained in Manila while the Japs were laying siege to the city, and maintained continuous broadcasts for 21 days. Rather than leave his wife alone with the Japs, he elected to stay behind when MacArthur's forces left the city.

## It takes IDEAS to make a network

... here's an IDEA that thrills thousands  
(IT COULD thrill a sponsor)

We had two ideas. Both good. We know they're good because we tested them. They worked. Maybe they're good for you.

Idea 1: Remember: Raffles... that modern London counterpoint of legendary Robin Hood... Raffles of short story fame, of books and movies? Probably. Most every-one does.

Raffles is a proved attraction. He's been interesting reading for years. Why not make him interesting to *hear*? Put him on the air, complete with montage of noises from London streets, docks, traffic, Big Ben and all... Do it so well that you can *feel* the fog and get the right cast... Killed players from leading Hollywood radio productions. Play the voice against a background of espionage and sabotage in London's war-darkened streets.

We made it a half hour program. We tested it... and found that 23.1% of the available Pacific Coast listeners were in the audience. Raffles again! Familiar Raffles, always new, always exciting.

Here comes Idea 2: Why not make Raffles a daytime strip? People read mysteries in

the daytime, go to mystery movies. They would listen to a mystery story in the daytime, too, if the right one came along.

The right one came along. Raffles.

Now the program is a tested package, wrapped for delivery to some sponsor. Maybe it's for you.

Raffles, like other Columbia Pacific program ideas, follows a formula... the Columbia Pacific formula: Take a good program idea, add top Hollywood talent, generous portions of CBS production know-how and technical facilities; send the result out over the Columbia Pacific Network. The formula works!

Ask us, or Radio Sales, to tell you more about the Raffles idea, and other Columbia Pacific programs available for sponsorship.

\*That's what Hooper says.



# Craven Raps FCC Setup

Continued from page 28

and we give only straight news presentations."

**Cites Danger to Free Speech**  
Winding up testimony on behalf of the Newspaper-Radio Committee last Wednesday (28), Whitney N. Seymour, New York attorney, argued that if FCC should prohibit newspaper ownership of broadcast stations, it would "endanger free speech and freedom of the press." He said that any such action by the Commission would be "not only beyond any existing power of the Commission but beyond any which could be committed to it, and it would be a dangerous experiment upon and invasion of rights guaranteed by the first amendment to the Federal Constitution."

The Commission's proposed action, said Seymour, is apparently based upon a "entirely novel theory of the duty of the Commission and the Federal Government. So far as I know, this theory has never before been advanced or supported by anyone in our government. The theory is, apparently, that the Commission and the Federal Government are somehow charged with the duty of providing media for expression to as many groups or interests as possible, and that to perform that duty they ought to limit those who now have one medium for reaching the public from acquiring additional media. This seems to be the basic theory, and the Commission proposes to make the first experiment with the theory in the history of the Republic in connection with the relationship between newspapers and radio."

**Government's Duty**  
"This argument is not based upon any rational conclusion that newspapers are not equally or more competent than other groups; it is based on the premise that, despite this competency, other groups or interests should be granted radio licenses instead, in order to multiply the 'pipettes' of thought to the public. The theory implies equally that the Government has a duty to choose among other classes who have present methods of access to the public and to regulate the use of media of expression by all groups."

The theory implies equally that publishers of books, pamphlets, or magazines, to churches, universities, motion picture companies, public speakers, or any other group or interest. Furthermore, the logical consequences of the present limited application of the theory is that one who is given a license for a radio station cannot thereafter acquire some other medium of reaching the public without losing his radio license. And if the theory is accepted, its logic requires that if one who is granted a radio license thereafter acquires a newspaper or magazine or publishes pamphlets, or is offered

a puppet, or acquires a motion picture theatre, or any other medium of expression, that person can be deprived of his radio license."

"If the Commission has this power, there is no reason why some other person cannot be given the right to exercise it directly over the press, regulating all of its activities. And such power cannot be given to the Federal Government, the press, it can reach all publishers. Such an economic sanction as is now being considered would be a very serious restraint or penalty than a direct tax or fine."

"These dangers, to which the members of the committee are fully alive, should be avoided, we submit, by an explicit prohibition in the statute."

**Mosby's Proposal**  
A plan for the handling of network option time under the network regulations was suggested to the committee by Arthur Mosby of Missouri. Mosby, operator of KGOV, CBS affiliate, Mosby suggested that networks be optioned the first half-hour of each hour during the daytime and the first three-quarters of each hour at night. Under his plan, he said, net shows would compete with each other and local shows would likewise be direct competitors. Under the present setup, Mosby complained, networks do not have option time which coincides and frequently big web shows compete directly with local programs."

Practicability of writing this into law was questioned by Senator Ernest W. McFarland, Arizona Democrat. Wheeler suggested that it might go into the NAB Code, but Mosby pointed out that neither Mutual nor Blue is a member of NAB.

## Philco-Variety

Continued from page 23

the dissemination, as well as on the radio.

From a showmanship viewpoint, the talent nominated by 'Variety' and its board of editors and correspondents for the Philco Radio Hall of Fame is being produced by De Vere Engelbach, scripted by George Faulkner, produced under the supervision of the Blue Network and the William Morris agency, which must pay talent from all agencies on a net fee basis. Bob Wamboldt is exec producer for the Blue; and Pete Jaeger, general sales manager, and Phillips Carlin, program director, generally supervise. Eddie Sengelaugh is production aide to Engelbach.

### Also Philly 'Prem'

Philadelphia, Nov. 30. Philco dealers will attend a 'premiere' of the Philco-Variety 'Radio Hall of Fame' broadcast at the Warwick hotel here Sunday night (1).

The broadcast will be piped into the dining room of the hotel from its origination point at the Ritz theatre, N.Y. Officials of Philco and WFL, Philly Blue Network outlet, will address the assembled dealers after the broadcast.

The Philco Co. is taking a delegation of Philly columnists, radio editors and legit critics to N. Y. for a gander at the initial broadcast.

## PHILCO'S 9-MO. NET

\$455,000 OVER '42

Philco Corp. consolidated net profit for the first nine months ending last Sept. 30 rose about \$455,000 over comparable period a year ago. Actual consolidated net amounted to \$2,445,034 as compared with an adjusted profit of \$1,989,226 in the first nine months of 1942. This is equal to \$1.78 per share of capital stock as against \$1.45 a year ago.

Net shown is after all charges and Federal taxes take into account anticipated voluntary price reductions and renegotiation of war contracts. Philco showed net profit of \$198,752, equal to 57¢ per share, for the quarter ended on last Sept. 30 as against \$636,403 or 47¢ per share for the 1942 September quarter.

**Des Moines.**—Edmund Linehan, program director of KSO and KRNT, has been selected by Drake University as instructor of the school's evening course in radio.

Katherine Prillo has joined the continuity department of KSO and KRNT. Ruth Anderson has been named traffic assistant for same stations.

## Mich. Stations Hike Blue Affiliates to 174

The number of Blue network affiliates was upped to 174 Monday (29) with the addition of WDBC, Escanaba; WDBJ, Marquette; and WKBE, Muskegon, as members of the Michigan web, which now includes 10 stations. All three new affiliates are 250-watts.

Two of the new affiliates will be included in a sub-regional chain in Michigan's upper peninsula to be known as the Northern network. They are WDBC and WDBJ, which will work with WSOO, Sault Ste. Marie, key station for the new group. Stanley R. Pratt, WSOO manager, will manage the Northern network.

## OWI, Radio-Agency Execs in Chi Meet on More Potent War Messages

Chicago, Nov. 30. Chicago deputy office of the OWI Domestic Radio Bureau has invited top executives of agencies, network officials, local station reps, and sponsors of big air shows to huddle here tomorrow (1) with the brass hats of OWI radio.

Patterned after a recent New York meeting, OWI will endeavor to get more war messages on the air by

working them into the actual script rather than using the stereotyped OWI plug at the end of the program.

OWI execs who will attend the meeting include Philip Cohen, new bureau chief; William Spire, deputy chief; (formerly with McCann Erickson), Jack Mullen, copy chief, (Benton & Bowles), and John Hymes station relations head. Group will hear an off the record closed circuit talk by Elmer Davis from Washington.



## Dick Keplinger SEATTLE ANNOUNCER WINS H. P. DAVIS AWARD!

In competition with America's leading announcers heard over NBC and its affiliated stations, Dick Keplinger was chosen winner of the 1943 H. P. Davis Memorial Award. Winner of this award is selected on basis of "personality, diction, voice, versatility, and maintenance of consistently high standard in presentation of programs . . . judged from transcriptions taken at random without knowledge of the announcer." It is with pride that we point to Mr. Keplinger's seven years with these stations as chief of our news bureau. His achievement is recognition of the high standard of performance and production which this organization earnestly endeavors to maintain. GOOD radio production is an actuality in growing, prosperous Seattle! Keplinger programs include daily newscasts for Rhodes Department Store, and 4-a-week "Stories of the Day" for Grove Laboratories.

**KOMO KJR**  
NBC NETWORK BLUE NETWORK

SEATTLE • WASHINGTON



KEEP UP WITH THE SHIFTING MARKETS WITH RADIO

NEW YORK AND COMPANY

# Gray-Howard Wow 60G, N. Y.; Osborne Fat 15G, Indpls., J. Dorsey 20G, Omaha

(Estimates for This Week)

**Jimmy Dorsey, Omaha** (Parade, 2:00, 20G)—Plus "Singing Maile" (M-G). With holiday help, sock \$20,000 or a bit over, is likely. Dorsey and wife, lived here, is the real magnet for this business.

**Ted Vio Rite, Boston** (RKO-Boston, 3:30, 41-99)—With "Doughboy in Ireland" (Col.) and Ink Spots, others, on stage. Solid \$28,000 on stage largely day opening.

**Glenn Gray, New York** (Strand, 2:35, 35-51.10)—With "Northern Patrol" (WB) and Willie Howard, others, on stage. Combination of Gray's band, Howard and Ernie Flynn picture pulling very big \$60,000 or close on first week which included Thanksgiving day opening.

**Mal Hallett, Newark** (Adams, 1:50, 35-99)—With "This is Withholding" (RKO) and Jane Withing, others, on stage. First-rate \$19,000, pull being mostly between band and Miss Withing.

**Woody Herman, New York** (Parade, 3:04, 35-51.10)—With "I Don't Care" (Col.) and Marion Hutton, others, in person. For final (3d) week of picture, ended last night (Tuesday) very good \$40,000. Herman band and Miss Hutton remain-over with "No Time for Love" (Par) which opens today (Wednesday).

**Richard Himber, Pittsburgh** (Sloan, 3:00, 30-75)—With "Hostages" (Par) and Mary Martha Briney and Bob Carter, on stage. Latter are two operatic singers with radio reps on KDKA. They're helping Himber some to get modest \$20,000, with limited small help.

**Isa Ray Hutton, Philadelphia** (Earle, 2:58, 35-85)—Plus "Fired Wife" (U) and Ella Mae Morse, on stage. Good \$20,000, but slightly below expectations.

**Johnny Long, Louisville** (National, 2:00, 40-65)—Plus "Prairie Chickens" (U). At \$10,500, almost entirely on Long comedy appeal.

**Will Osborne, Indianapolis** (Circle, 2:00, 30-55)—With "Always Bridesmaid" (U) and acts. Picture is helping draw, but band sells itself for nice \$15,000. First time for Osborne at this house.

**Paul Martell, New York** (State, 3:45, 35-51.10)—With "Heats On" (Col.) and Henry Youngman, Helen Parrish, others, on stage. Stage show credited importantly in support of picture.

lightly-regarded Mac West musical for sock \$40,000 or near.

**Frankie Masters, Los Angeles** (R. P. Picture, 2:30, 40-75)—With "Find Pleasure" (WB). First theatre date after 10 weeks at Biltmore Bowl. Disappointing \$17,500.

**Phil Spatny, Chicago** (Chicago, 4:00, 50-85)—Plus "True to Life" (Par) (2d wk). Great \$45,000, mainly on band's appeal.

**Tommie Tucker, Providence** (Metropolitan, 3:00, 35-59)—With "Mr. Mugsie" (WB). Sings \$10,000. Tucker taking the bows.

**Terry Wald, Cleveland** (Palace, 3:30, 35-85)—With "Tarzan's Desert Mystery" (RKO) and Bonnie Baker, on stage. Good \$22,000, with small help from film.

**Lawrence Welk, New York** (4:20, 35-51.10)—With "Sahara" (Col.) plus Edwards' quiz novelty, "Truth or Consequences" on stage. Currently in third and final week here, looking better than \$25,000, very good.

## Toscanni Cancels P.A.s

Cleveland, Nov. 30. Depressed by conditions in Italy and not in the best of health, Arturo Toscanini has cancelled his plans to appear as guest conductor of the Cleveland Orchestra, Dec. 16 and 18. Already hundreds of tickets have been refunded.

As a substitute, Dorothy Maynor will be the soloist with Eric Leinsdorf conducting.

## 'Dixieland' Decca Discs

rad Gowans, who set the deal with Decca bringing the Original Dixieland band into the Katherine Dunham Revue, signed with Milt Gabler of Decca to make 10 sides at an all-night session Friday (3). Tunes lined up for waxing include "Lazy Dandy," "Muskrat Ramble," "Barney Blue," "Sensation" and other oldies made famous when the band was in its heyday years ago.

Five man combo will have Gowans on clarinet; Eddie Edwards, trombone; Tony Spargo, drums; Frank Signorelli, piano; and Wild Bill Davison, trumpet. Later is slated to have recording studio in report for draft induction immediately after the session.

## On the Upbeat

Marty Sermon's 4 Kings and a Queen, at Hotel Henry's Silver Grill, Pittsburgh, for last two months, have their option picked up for two more.

Chuck Faulkner's orchestra signed by Charles R. Rogers for United Artists picture: "Song of the Open Road."

Thomas G. Buckwell, president of General Amusement Corp., is leaving New York for a tour of his semi-annual business pleasure jaunt.

Tranny Young, trombone player who will debut a new small combo of his own, has been admitted to ASCAP. His band opens Dec. 2 for four weeks at Hollywood Club, Kalamazoo, Mich.

Bill Birds band goes into the Chanticleer, times five, for four weeks, etc.

George Duffy orch has been booked into Vague Torrance, Pittsburgh, for two weeks beginning Dec. 11. He follows Bob Strawn. Duffy in turn will be replaced Christmas week by Art Kasel.

Tiny Wolfe, who has been with Baby Barron's band for last several seasons, has quit the outfit, with Barron's induction into the Army, and has already been signed up to co-tour with Jeanie Baxter on three-week tour of song-and-dance program for a bare sponsor on KDKA, Pittsburgh. On this show he replaces Buzz Aston, who has been inducted and leaves for the Army this week.

Navier Cugat making arrangements for post-war tour of South and Central American republics with 50-piece band and prominent Spanish-speaking entertainers.

Bob Chester moved out of a film role in the Walter Colmes production, "Treadoers," he to prior commitments for his and on a tour of Northern California.

## Band Bookings

Earl Hines, Dec. 10, Bayshore Pavilion, Hampton, Va.; 11, City Armory, Durham, N. C.; 20, week Two-Spot Club, Jacksonville, Fla.

Hal McIntire, Dec. 18, Municipal Aud., Atlanta.

Georgie Auld, Dec. 7-19, Tune-Town Ballroom, St. Louis, 22, week; Lew's State theatre, New York, N. Y.

Vaughn Monroe, Dec. 13-15, Plymouth theatre, Worcester, Mass.; 17-19, State theatre, Hartford; 23, Poli theatre, Watertown, Conn.

Duke Ellington, Dec. 9, Palomar B., Norfolk, Va.; 10, Convention Hall, Philadelphia; 11, Carnegie Hall, N. Y.; 12, Symphony Hall, Boston; 13,

## Bands at Hotel B. O.'s

(Presented herewith, as a weekly tabulation, is the estimated cover charge business being done by name bands in various New York hotels. Dinner business (7-10 pm), not rated. Figures after name of hotel give room capacity and cover charge. Later amount designates weekend and holiday price. Completion is based on period from Monday to Saturday.)

Band	Hotel	Cover Charge	Room Capacity	Weeks Played	Total
Ray Heatherton, Biltmore	(400; \$1-\$1.50)	24	1,175	35.75	
Lari McIntire, Lexington	(300; 75c-\$1.50)	94	1,900	109.50	
Benny Goodman, New Yorker	(400; \$1-\$1.50)	7	2,500	18.175	
Tommie Dorsey, Pennsylvania	(500; \$1-\$1.50)	8	3,200	26.75	
Leo Reisman, Waldorf	(550; \$1-\$2)	8	3,000	25.925	
Count Basie, Lincoln	(475; \$1-\$1.50)	3	1,550	4.600	
Guy Lombardo, Roosevelt	(400; \$1-\$1.50)	8	2,200	19.250	
Ernie Madriguera, Commodore	(400; \$1-\$1.50)	2	1,435	3.825	
Abe Lyman, Essex House	(300; \$1-\$1.50)	1	1,000	1.550	

\* Asterisks indicate a supporting floor show. New Yorker and Biltmore have ice shows. Waldorf has Frank Sinatra and Volkoff and Mladin.

## Chicago

Griff Williams (Empire room, Palmer House, 750; \$3-\$5.50 min.). Including Thanksgiving Day matinee and evening biz room chalked up seasonal 12,500.

Jimmy Jay (New Walnut Room, Bismarck Hotel; 405; \$1.50-\$2.50 min.). Final four days of Art Kasel and three days of Jimmy Jay kept liquor around figure 5,000.

Charlie Spivak (Panther Room, Sherman Hotel; 950; \$1.50-\$2.50 min.). Spivak a ball of fire here, responsible for smash \$3,000.

Nat Bonadona (Mayfair Room, Bonaventure Hotel; 400; \$2.50 min.). Shaving honors with Carl Brisson, continues around with 3,000.

Eddie Oliver (Marine Room, Edgewater Beach Hotel; 1,100; 50c and 75c min. cover charge plus \$1.25 min.). Oliver proving excellent draw with another big \$3,500.

## Los Angeles

Freddy Martin (Ambassador, 900; \$1-\$1.50). Shimmer which is norm and off in the Martin groove.

Joe Reichman (Biltmore, 900; \$1-\$1.50). Well it start. Just under 4,000 tabs.

## Location Jobs, Not in Hotels

Les Brown (Paladium B. Hollywood, sixth week). Proved a big surprise and trailed off with sound 24,500 count. Teddy Powell came in tonight (Tues.) for six weeks.

Bob Chester (Travon B. Southgate, ninth week). Still punching out solid 7,000 and holding sustained pace.

Alvin Karp (Casa Marina B. Culver City, 13th week). For three-night-a-week track not so bad at 4,000.

Phil Harris (Slaps) Maxie's N. Los Angeles, fourth week). Combination of floor show and Harris' radio rep brought another 5,000; about all room can hold.

Joe Brown (Chez Parcy; 650; \$1-\$3.50 min.). Gertrude continues to jam the place to capacity; 5,800 once more.

De Courtenay (Blackhawk; 500; \$1-\$2.50 min.). Courtenay's popularity keeping figure up around very good 5,500.

## Chicago

Lincoln Park Ballroom, Westport, Mass.; 14, State theatre, Hartford; 15, Chestnut St. Hall, Philadelphia; 17, Memorial Aud., Springfield, O.; 19, Chicago Civic Opera House.

Nat Towles, Dec. 24, Armory, Akron, O.; 28, Aud., Buffalo; 30, Strand Ballroom, Philadelphia; 31, week, Royal theatre, Baltimore.

Lincoln Ballroom, Dec. 23, Lincoln Park Ballroom, Westport, Mass.; 24, Brooklyn Palace, Brooklyn, N. Y.; 25, Renaissance Casino, N. Y.; 26, Laurel Gardens, Newark; 27, Ritz Ballroom, Bridgeport, Conn.; 28, Arena, Washington, D. C.; 31, week, Apollo theatre, N. Y.; Jan. 1, Auditorion B. N. Y.; Jan. 9, four weeks, Tie-Tot Club, Boston.

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# Inside Stuff—Orchestras

Music Corp. of America still has several bands tied to contracts of a type generally written by that agency before the AFM drew up a few years ago. The new standard three- and seven-week contracts for the MCA forms retained a bandleader under the agency's management until he paid \$100,000 in commissions and in return the leader was guaranteed weekly nothing.

Ted Fiorillo, who moves over to General Amusement Corp. next May, at the expiration of a three-year agreement at MCA, formerly was signed to a contract of the type now being rewritten into a three-year pact at the time the AFM introduced the latter. Many other leaders were in the same position; some of these took the same course as Fiorillo, but for one reason or another the type contracts are still in force. Guy Lombardo is said to be one of the few bands tied to a \$100,000-commission agreement to have surprised that figure in percentage payments to the agency.

Warner Bros. executives have written N. Y. local 802 of the AFM to complain about the conduct of Sam Davis, ex-bus player with Silver Fields, who was ejected from the WB Strand, N. Y., on the last day of Fields' stay there last week. Davis created a disturbance on stage during the regular show and Fields fired him immediately. He wouldn't leave the theatre and cops were called to force him out. Band played the last show with no loss.

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March of Time's forthcoming short on the music business will devote a good portion of its running time to the disc controversy. M. O. T. leaders have taken several shots at AFM interest. Petillo prouder over loaned meetings, including one taken in Newark Monday 129 at a confab there, signing of the AFM-Decca agreement was reconstructed for the camera, later.

Short will also include shots taken at the Chicago convention of 1942, during the early part of which Petillo announced the record ban to become effective the following Aug. 1. These records were taken for the AFM and are owned by it.

# Leaders May Fortify Disc Quality By Spot-Booking Standout Tooters

While there has been only one or two occurrences this far, many have once the disc situation is fully settled, are anticipating hiring high-priced musicians to work with their bands on disc dates. With performance standards of record bands constantly shifting due to frequent musician changes, some bands may be weakly manned in some positions, or lack soloists. High wages have been paid for the same reason, many hiring N. Y. to avoid the road's difficulties are usually available and their intermission men would make good spot performers.

Some leaders don't think much of the new contract, claiming that though a certain section may be weak the condition can't always be remedied by hiring in a musician who has never worked with the rest of the men in that outfit and who is as familiar with the material. It's conceded without argument, though, that hiring outside men to do only one or two spots would be very advantageous.

Most recent leader to use a stand-out musician as a replacement during a record session is Woody Herman. He brought in Ben Webster to take Duke Ellington's tenor place at Decca recently. Musso retired to a war plant a while back.

# Norvo, Carol Bruce Now Off Coca-Cola Payroll

Red Norvo's orchestra and Carol Bruce finally dropped off the Coca-Cola payroll last week (Wednesday) after completing a series of short subjects for screening overseas. Norvo and Miss Bruce, and seven musicians, were being paid by the bottling company for weeks to come and avoid a trial to go overseas to entertain. Idea never came off due to USO-Camp Shows' objections to commercialized entertainment.

When the thing was finally called off, Norvo and Miss Bruce continued to collect salaries, but to earn them they were shifted into the short-subjects path.

# Cavallero Going Sweet

Carmen Cavallero, following four-week stay at the Frolics Club, Miami, will junk his recently installed swing style retro to his old sweet groove. He opens at the Frolics Dec. 7.

Cavallero's decision is said to be based on objections of former buyers to his switch to hot. Waldorf Hotel, N. Y., is supposed to have rejected thoughts of bringing him back for that reason, and the Statler hotel, Washington, where the band is now, is reported to have expressed sharp dissatisfaction with the drive of the band.

At Trac's novelty orchestra will be recruited today (Wednesday) by Classic Records for its Hit label.

# Dexter's Pneumonia

Harford, Nov. 30. Al "Pistol Packin' Mama" Dexter is still in St. Francis hospital with pneumonia. He was stricken after opening at the State Thursday 253 with high fever. Rem of him, two of whom also contracted colds in Boston, laid out remainder of holiday weekend engagements.

Mishap was record for State within a month. Three weeks ago Mills Bros. cancelled out at last minute. Ethel Waters substituted.

Dexter is due to open at the Cap (Friday, N. Y. 129) and GAC, his booking office, understands he will open on schedule.

# Chesterfield Pressing James to Build Up Crossley Via Personals

Chesterfield is putting pressure on Harry James to sidetrack his strong liking for legation. The Coast and confining his activities to film-making and three-weekly broadcasts for the eagle company. This is denied by James close to the leader, but is confirmed by other sources. Chesterfield feels that James is hurting himself by making so few personals and points to the decrease in the Crossley of the program as evidence of that. While James' radio program once had a 16 rating, it now has a 7. Glenn Miller, who preceded James, never got as high as the latter.

James has long taken a stance against too much location and theatre work. He cancelled a string of such dates earlier this year after a stay at the Paramount, N. Y. However, he owes the Paramount two weeks, has an eight-week contract to fulfill at the Astor hotel, N. Y., which was deferred from last fall by a call from Metro for film work, and is owed to Joe Frank Brady a couple of weeks. All these commitments will probably be played out when James comes east in the spring, if he doesn't go in to the Army.

James takes a physical in Hollywood, Dec. 15, where his case was transferred from Beaumont, Tex., his home draft board.

Jack Teagarden has resumed parting work on the Coast after being ill and out of action for several months. The leader has been confined himself to two or three one-nighters a week.

Benny Goodman returned to the stand at the New Yorker hotel, N. Y., Saturday 27 after five night's absence due to intestinal trouble.

# "Post-War Show Business"

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# Frolics, Miami, Offers T. Dorsey Record Location Salary, \$10,000

# Carle Recruiting Band, Dickerling Dies

Frankie Carle's orchestra, which is not yet in existence, will be managed by General Amusement Corp. He signed a seven-year contract with GAC last week. Recording deal with one of the music disc companies, not yet in accord with the AFM, is being worked out and may be signed this week.

# ADA LEONARD STRIPPED FROM HUSBAND IN CHI.

Chicago, Nov. 30. Ada Leonard, 26, leader of an all-girl orchestra, and former burlesque stripper, was granted a divorce last week from Edward Brady, 47, electrical engineer now residing in Washington, D. C.

She told Judge Shubin in Superior Court that Brady deserted her in 1935, a year after they were married. He just packed his clothes and left. I haven't seen him since," she testified.

# Armstrong May Do Carnegie Hall Concert

Louis Armstrong will make his "longhair" debut with a January-jazz concert in Carnegie Hall, N. Y., if tentative. "Jell," Joe Glaser, Armstrong's manager, and Ernie Anderson, promoter of last season's Town Hall jazz concert, who also entrepreneurs Pats Waller's Carnegie Hall appearance, have been working on the date, program and playing talent, etc.

As outlined in preliminary stages, concert will be built around Armstrong's trumpet and vocal soloist with his own orchestra, the Golden Gate quartet, or a similar vocal group, and a collection of outstanding Negro and white instrumentalists to work with him in various combinations.

Tommy Dorsey's "stra his been offered \$10,000 a week for a two-week stay at the Frolics Club. For a location job this offer is probably without precedent. Yet Dorsey, who has little time out and apparently isn't particularly interested in going south, countered with a request for a weekly and transportation.

General Amusement Corp. is booking the Frolics, while Music Corp. of America is booking an opposition ballroom, the Flagger Gardens restaurant, in the same town. Tevis is it that GAC would have been buying the Frolics to supply him with a spot in opposition to the one MCA is booking.

The two Florida disceries, both former night club, have been in name band competition for some time, though lately with Dorsey not being offered anywhere near the salaries the Frolics has been doing. Later, Dorsey had \$1,500 a week for a stay there recently and is paying Tommy Tucker, who follows Dorsey, \$1,000 a week. The place not far under that amount. With Tommy Dorsey, then, the Frolics is a MCA band, while the current offering of the opposition, the Flagger Gardens, is a Decca band. Hal McIntyre, a William Morris property.

Heavy coin being dispensed by the Frolics is being played by circumstances. To knock out Flagger's it must have top names and since the spot has no way it must compete with Decca salaries to bring such bands south. On occasion singing, Bobby Sherwood, who opens at Flagger's following McIntyre, was offered \$1,000 a week by the recreational possibilities.

# T. Dorsey Still Torn Between Two B'way Houses on 4'4 Dates

Tommy Dorsey's contractual trouble in connection with commitments to both the Paramount and Capitol theatres, N. Y., during 1944 still have not been settled. Leader owns both houses during the year, but the agreement of the Cap calls for his playing there and nowhere else during that year.

Dorsey agreed to play the Capitol under pressure from Metro, to which he's contracted for films "Love's Me," owns both Labor Day, and Love's theatre chain, of which Cap is flagship. However, after signing that agreement on the Coast last August, he is said to have given the Paramount a contract for another date beyond the one he is to begin this Dec. 22. As this obviously must be played in 1944, it conflicts with the Cap's exclusive hold on this during the year.

The Capitol agreement carries a clause giving the studio the right to complete his obligation to the Par in December, 1943, but doesn't allow for any other commitments Dorsey may have in N. Y.

Dorsey has never played any other Broadway house but the Paramount. He opens at the Par Dec. 22.

# School Wins Vocalist From Maurice Spitalny

Pittsburgh, Nov. 30. Maurice Spitalny, whose band has been at William Penn Hotel Terrace Room since Labor Day, has lost his featured vocalist for the last year, Elaine Beverly, to the cause of higher education. Cap last August he is said to have given the Paramount a contract for another date beyond the one he is to begin this Dec. 22. As this obviously must be played in 1944, it conflicts with the Cap's exclusive hold on this during the year.

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## RKO's \$5,000,000

(Continued from page 5)

1	Pistol Packin' Mania 1177	(Morris-)	Al Dexter	Decca
			Archie Campbell	Decca
			Frank Crosby	Decca
			Frank	Columbia
			Dick Kohn	Decca
			Dick Haymes	Decca
			Bing Crosby	Decca
			Frank Sinatra	Columbia
			Andrews-Crosby	Decca
			Frank Sinatra	Columbia
			Bing Crosby	Decca
			Frank Sinatra	Columbia
			Bing Crosby	Decca
			Mills Bros.	Decca
			Glen Gray	Decca
			Jack Haymes	Decca

(These records are directly below first 10 in popularity)

Cuddle Up Little Closer (Harms).....	Kay Armen	ecca
Due Evening (20) (Shapiro).....	Sinatra-T.	ictor
ow Sweet You Are (Remick).....	Kay Armen	ecca
Due Rain (McLrose).....	Glenn Miller	Victor

## Miss America, '43

Continued from page 1

Chicago song plugger caught adding phony plugs to list made up by a local monitor service was fined \$300 by the Publishers Contract Union last week. Routine was that the plugger would hang around the lobby of the publishers building until the messenger from the monitors' office arrived. Plugger would talk the youngster into letting him take the sheets into one of the offices in the building where he would type in a flock of imaginary plugs that were never aired.

Special transcription to be used over the p.a. system at the Jack & Heintz war plant at Cleveland was made at World Broadcasting in N. Y. last week. Consisted of a specially-written march and various announcements, etc. Sammy Watkins, Cleveland bandleader, came east to direct the music. Band was gathered and rehearsed in a special arrangement by Harry Sosnik, Decca conductor.

## Continued from page 1 =

drop to 40% of the overseas troop population, so, too, must Camp Shows put less emphasis on its domestic program of entertainment.

The approximate \$6,000,000 outlay according to Lawrence Phillips, exec.-v.p. of Camp Shows, represents nearly half of the \$11,750,000 earmarked for the morale organization by USO for the 19-month period extending from June 1, 1943, to Dec. 31, 1944, from funds raised through the Na-

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tional War Fund. The figures were presented by Phillips to James A. Farley, chairman of the commerce-industry division in the N. Y. War Fund campaign, in pointing up the vital need for the full allotment if sufficient entertainment is to reach the boys overseas. Originally Camp Shows had been allotted \$18,750,000.

As significantly pointed out by James E. Sauter, chairman of the entertainment industry division in the campaign, the \$11,750,000 appropriation (on the basis of a full U. S. Army-Navy strength of approximately that figure in manpower in 1944), means that \$1 per service man is being allotted for the entertainment of the Yanks for the 19-month period.

To achieve the overseas undertaking, Camp Shows has reduced its domestic Victory Circuit from 60 to 30 units, with the Blue tab units continuing to service the more remote bases scattered around the country.

'What for?' she asks prettily. 'I'm not going in swimming.'

And the boys are caught with their flashpans down and not a comeback in earshot.

'You see, the Miss America for 1943 is supposed to be a typical modern American girl.' Miss Barlet will explain as the men of the press struggle to regain their collective breaths. 'I wasn't picked for my figure. (But it ain't bad, Sister!) I was chosen for a combination of personality, health and charm. And I'm not going around the country trying to sell myself. I'm trying to do a real job to help the War effort.'

She says it all straight, too, and danged if it doesn't sound like she means it.

'Girls of 1943 aren't interested in just being pretty girls. They want to be useful as well as attractive.'

**Lever ros. Pitch**  
So, with Lever Bros. footing the bills, Miss Bartel is hopping about the land, plugging for War Bonds, appearing at service camps for the men in uniform, and just incidentally whipping up a bit of a style show in leading department stores where Milady learns of Duration Fashions, per chance also of Vimms and o' Tuxey cosmetics.

She's doing a good job with it. Tall, honey-haired model type, she actually talks intelligently. Ad lib too. And in public as well as private, over the radio or for the press. The boys seem to like the idea, once they recover from it.

What's more, she possesses a rich, nice singing voice, which is unimpaired whenever she visits Army, Navy or Air Force camps or Naval bases. Usually, her own special orchestrations of 'Night and Day' and 'You'll Never Know' are handy, just in case. She can always give G. I. Joe a little pep talk along with her songs, and Joe is deeply in her lovely hands.

## NBC, CBS, Blue, Mutual Plugs

Following list of the most played popular tunes on the networks for the week beginning Monday and through Sunday, Nov. 22-28 from 3 p.m. to 1 a.m., is divided into two sections. The first section represents the first approximately 25 leaders in alphabetical order, and in some cases there are ties, accordingly for longer list, and the second section contains the "also runs" but listed in alphabetical order. The compilations are: W.E.A.F., WABC, WJZ and WOR, N. Y., and are based on data provided by Accurate Reporting Service, regular checking source of the music publication industry.

As detailed, the first 25 in alphabetical order is a trade move to curb artificial stimulation of plugs via the 'payola,' i.e., bribery or other gratuities. It's thus figured the competition will be healthier and cleaner.

TITLE		PUBLISHER
Beetle Much-o		Melotone
Candlelight and Wishes	round the World	Miller
Don't Believe Everything	seen-Around Welter	Shapiro
For First Time		Home
Here's What You Are	Thank Luck	Am. Acc.
I'll Be Home For Christmas		lars
It's Not This Feeling	Being	Morris
Little Did I Know		Indies
My Heart Tells Me	Busio O'Grady	DVC
Oh, I Feel		Talman
My Shining Hour	"Sky's the Limit"	Morris
No Love No Nothing	"Gang's All Here"	Triangle
Oh, What a Beautiful Memory	"Okla-homa"	Good
Paper Doll		Marko
People Will Say We're in Love	"Okla-homa"	Transford
Put Your Arms Around Me		Good
Say a Prayer for Boys Over There	"Here's to Hold"	Southern
Shoo Shoo Baby	"Three Cheers For Boys"	Leeds
Speak Low	"Touch or Veau's"	Chapin
Stay Eyes-I Don't Know		Feid
Surry With Fridge on Top	"Okla-homa"	Crawford
The Dreamer	"Think Lucky Stars"	Winn
There's Either Too Young Too Old	"ucky Stars"	Winnar
What They Ask About You		Berlin
White Christmas		Winn

#### MOST PLAYED AFTER FIRST 25

Pistol Pickin' Mama	Dorsey
Quarter, Mountain, Go! Always—'Diside	Morris
Thank Your Luck, Stars—Thank Luck	May
Things That Mean So Much	Henkel
Do Nothing 'Til You Hear From Me	Bohannan
I Dug a Ditch—'Thousands Cheer'	Zeid
My Baby Blue Tonight	Broodway
By the River of Roses	Shapiro
Do You Know	Reis
Don't Sweetheart Me	Advance
I Staged This You Too, Long!	Kennos
In a Friendly Little Harbor	Campbell
Someone to Love	Block
I Stayed Out 'Til You Came	Clappett
Blue Rain	Melrose
Close to You	Barton
Oklahoma—Oklahoma	Cranford
One For My Baby—'Sk's the Limit	Mills
Sweet Rosie O'Grady—'Sweet Rosie O'Grady'	Morris
Do You Please—'Do You Please'	Miller
Old Acquaintance—'Old Acquaintance'	Witmark
Time on My Hands	Wilder
Don't You Ever Let Me Go	Saunders

† *Film musical*. • *Legit musical*.

prety showed in the Lever organization cooked up the idea after the firm had decided to take over the Atlantic City beauty pageant and save same from itself. Treatment is much like that master-minded by Lever's H. B. Titcomb for the 'Maid of the Year' contest. The contest worked beautifully the past several years, with a new 'Maid' each spring and summer traipsing the length and breadth of the land in the interest of cotton uses. Always a pretty gal, but one with class. Nifty art of every type. A smart chick, but not a smarty-pants.

Funny thing, too, 'Miss America' and the 'Maid of Colton' seem to be getting a lot more space in the papers wherever they go than was the case a decade or so ago. The queen. Ailsa Tempus, too fugit, even in Atlantic City.

Glenn Rose, clefled 'Old Man Riveter,' war industry arody, he Yacht Club Boys.

**•TUNE-DEX•**  
*It's An Important Tune!*

**JAN. RUBINI**  
World Famous  
**VIOLINIST AND CONDUCTOR**  
Just returned from entertaining our  
fighting boys in the South Pacific.  
Now Playing Orpheum, Oakland

WHO HAS ALL THE HEP CATS JUMPIN'?

**DEACON JONES**

Recorded By **LOUIS JORDAN**  
Capitol No. 140 Decca No. 8851  
**PYRAMID MUSIC COMPANY**  
1509 No. Vine Street, Hollywood 22, Cal.  
Material Available—Selling Agents: Pacific Music Sales

**It Can't Miss!** Film audiences are already raving about this great song from KAY KYSER'S latest musical picture AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS.

# Don't Believe Everything You Dream

**Lyrics by HAROLD ADAMSON      Music by JIMMY McHUGH**

**ROBBINS**  
**MUSIC CORPORATION**

NEW YORK

**MURRAY BAKER**  
*Gen. Prof. Manager*

# Nets Cutting Down on Band Remotes In Face of Petrillo's Strike Threat

Though they seemingly have nothing more than rumors on which to base conclusions, the broadcasting companies expect AFM head James C. Petrillo to call a strike after the first of the year, at least bring caught without fill-in material, as they have been in the past, each net, with the exception of WOR. Mutual has been decreasing band remotes lately to devote more time to studio orchestra broadcasts, vocal shows by studio singers and occasional variety productions.

As a result of the remote restrictions, band broadcast time is now at a premium. No new periods are being distributed and the only way a bandleader can hope to get on the air (from a location) is to move into a spot from which his predecessor had a wire. Even that's not always a guarantee.

Remote condition, if it continues to grow worse, may effect cutting of bands in N. Y., spots, most of which are financial loss dates.

NBC hasn't used orchestra remotes for some time. CBS and the Blue have, but each has gradually cut down until there is only one spot on either chain getting more than two shots weekly. That's Benny Goodman's orchestra from the New Yorker hotel, N. Y. Tommy Dorsey has two on the Blue and two on CBS. Frank, Daley's Terrace Room has only two on CBS, whereas it once had many, but it also has a number of Mutual shots.

Mutual's methods of picking up remotes are disliked by most leaders, but they continue to take them because there's nothing else available. Few full half-hour periods are allotted by Mutual (there was one in instance recently of a five-minute broadcast by Ted Lewis) in an endeavor to carry as many bands as possible.

Jack Gordon and James Monrozo collaborating on the score for "Kitten On the Keys," 20th-Fox musical to be produced by George Jessel.

## British Best Sheet Sellers

(Week Ending Nov. 5, 1943)  
London, Nov. 6.  
Wing and Prayer.....F.D.H.  
Silver Wings.....Dash  
Never Know.....Chappell  
Blue of Evening.....C. C.  
If You Please.....Victoria  
My Blue Eyes.....Southern  
Some Day Meet Again, Chappell  
Sunday, Monday.....Victoria  
In My Arms.....Feldman  
If I Had My Way.....Wood  
Rudy Lips.....Wood  
Put Arms Around Me.....F.D.H.

## Music Notes

Jack Gordon and James Monrozo writing ditties for "Moment For Music" at 20th-Fox.

Sammy Cahn and Julie Styne are culling numbers for the next Kay Kyser starter, still untitled, to be produced by Sam Blachoff at Columbia.

Frank Skinner and Irving Bibb clefted title song for "Gung' Ho" at Universal.

Miklos Rosta composing the score for "At Night We Dream" at Columbia.

Irving Mills publishing the score of Columbia's Mae Westler, "The Heat's On."

Rev Webb writing background music for "Dangerous Journey" at RKO.

Harold Adamson and Jimmy McHugh collaborating on ditties for "Bring On the Girls" at Paramount.

Lester Garsen sold two comedy songs to Ken Murray for use in "Blackouts," vaude revue in Hollywood.

## From Strings to Bodies

Philadelphia, Nov. 30.

Dr. Israel A. Sickerka resigned as first violinist in the Philadelphia Orchestra to devote his full time as an orthopedic, a profession he studied while playing in the orchestra.

Dr. Sickerka said that he took the step because of a critical shortage of physician in this area. He said he had asked for a leave of absence from the orchestra, but had been turned down, which makes his resignation final.

## Larry Hart's Estate

Goes Mostly to Bro.

Teddy, Friend Kron

Bulk of estate left by Lorenz Hart, songwriter who died of pneumonia in N. Y. last week, goes to his brother, Theodore (Teddy) Hart, current in "One Touch of Venus," Imperial, N. Y., and William H. Kron, a friend, Will, dated June 17 of this year, was filed Monday (29) in the Surrogate's court, N. Y. Amount of estate was not made public.

Hart named Kron and his collaborator, Richard Rodgers, as executors and trustees, and directed them to form two trusts, one to consist of 70% of his residuary estate for the benefit of his brother, and the other 30% for the benefit of Kron. Teddy Hart was bequeathed \$5,000 outright, and his wife, Dorothy L. Hart, \$2,500. On the death of her husband she receives the income from his trust for life, and on her death the principal is payable to the Federation for the Support of Jewish Philanthropic Societies. There were other bequests, including \$2,500, to Dr. Milton Bender, Hart's agent-general.

Hart Services on Coast.

Hollywood, Nov. 30.

Memorial services for Lorenz Hart at Temple Israel Friday (26) drew around 100 mourners, mostly songwriters. Rabbi Isaac M. Wise read the eulogy and a cantor intoned the Hebrew chant. Only music was organ rendition of Hart's outstanding songs, played before the service.

# Pluggers' Prexy Warns Bribery Rife Again; Threatens Punishment

## 15 Best Song Sellers

(ending Nov. 27)

Paper Doll.....Darks  
Patrol Packin' Mama.....Mayfair  
White Christmas.....Orin  
Either-Too Young.....Winmark  
Beautiful Morning.....Crawford  
Sun, Mon. or Always.....Mayfair  
Victory Polka.....Chappell  
People Will Say.....Crawford  
Say a Prayer.....Southern  
Heart Tells Me.....BVC  
Be Home for Xmas.....McLure  
Put Your Arms Around Me.....Remick  
For First Time.....Shapiro  
If You Please.....Famous

## ASCAP'S L. A. CONCERTS FOR OVERSEAS RECORDS

Los Angeles, Nov.

Dual sponsorship by ASCAP and L. A. Times of two concerts in Shrine auditorium Jan. 29-30 to raise funds for Overseas Master Records, Inc., has been arranged by Robert L. Murray, public relations head of the Society. Alfred Wallenstein conducts both musicals, one devoted to the classics and other more in the popular vein. Hollywood Canteen will be cut in for 25% of the proceeds, with remainder of the receipts to be used for buying records to be shipped to the armed forces overseas.

Concerts are to be similar to that presented in Carnegie Hall, New York, for Master Records, and also commemorate ASCAP's 30th Anniversary.

Julie Styne and Sammy Cahn clefted "When You Love," "You Never Know Where You're Going," "There Goes That Song Again" and the title song for "Cinderella Jones" at Warner.

Johnny O'Connor, recently elected president of the Council Men's Association, popped the payola question again to members of the union Monday night (29) in meeting at the Abbey Hotel, N. Y. O'Connor warned that the bribery problem is again getting out of hand, that he is aware of who is guilty, and that if the practice doesn't stop the net will again take steps to cure trend.

Numerous other items of vaude import were covered. Among them was discussion of respective efforts of pluggers and counter boys. Complaints have been received by the union re the use of \$20 minimum counter boys to plug songs. It is felt that this class of worker should be in one or the other category. Contact men draw a minimum of \$35 weekly for such work.

Union also decided that the \$10 to which publishers were restricted last year for Christmas presents for bandleaders, etc., was not enough. Accordingly, the union has raised the maximum that can be spent on individual gifts to \$20.

## Toots Camarata, Out Of Army, to Join Decca

Toots Camarata, arranger, joins Decca Records Monday (6) as a recording director for both Decca and World Broadcasting Co., transcription affiliate. Camarata was released from the Army Air Forces about three weeks ago on a medical discharge.

For years with Jimmy Dorsey's orchestra, Camarata was arranging for Glen Gray before going into service. His deal with Decca was signed before going into service, but that fact was generally unknown.

Harry Soskin, longtime Decca staff maestro, is also back, now that recording is active again.

**We have just acquired from Regent Music Corp.  
a ballad which we believe will be**

**THE COUNTRY'S NEXT  
BIG HIT!**

**by Alec Wilder**

**Decca-Recorded by Mills Bros.**  
(backed with "Paper Doll")

**Columbia-Recorded by Cab Calloway**

**Columbia (forthcoming release)**

**Red Norvo and Mildred Bailey**

**EDWIN H. MORRIS and COMPANY, Inc.**

**1619 Broadway**

**New York 19, N. Y.**



# Henie Ice Show \$204,800 in 11 Days At Mpls.; 'Iccapades' 192G in Pitt

Indianapolis, Nov. 30. Sonja Henie's 1944 'Hollywood Ice Show' played to a smash audience of 125,000 paid admissions and a gross estimated at \$204,800 in the 11-day engagement closing here Sunday.

"Twenty thousand service men were entertained free during the show. The price was \$2.75. All the records at the Coliseum were broken the last three nights of the engagement."

**Sonja's Mother Sued**  
Mrs. Selma Henie, mother of Sonja Henie, and the Marriott hotel, where the star was staying here during the run of her 1944 Hollywood Ice Show, were named in a damage suit charged with arrest by an employee of the hotel.

Mrs. Henie reported the loss of a diamond ring valued at \$10,000. The woman employee claimed that she was questioned by police and taken to headquarters, where she was subjected to lie-detector tests before release. Mrs. Henie later learned the ring was found in a bed in her apartment, said. Spokesman for Mrs. Henie denied that she had made any accusations.

## 'Iccapades' 192G in Pitt

Pittsburgh, Nov. 30. 'Iccapades' fell short of the \$50,000 for third and final week of engagement here at Garden. In first fortnight show played to virtual capacity but last performances were off considerably except on Thanksgiving, which was the windup, when it bounced back to 3,800 again.

However, run was phenomenally successful, with a total gross of around \$122,000, biggest take ever recorded here for any kind of attraction. In addition, management donated a capacity house to a KDKA "Far Band" show, which, if included in the figures, would have sent 'Iccapades' right up around the 200 grand mark.

## LOST TEETH IN FIGHT, LOSES DAMAGE SUIT

Minneapolis, Nov. 30. Nick Haepp, 31-year-old performer, has failed in his efforts to collect \$5,000 damages from Sevier and Ernest Peterson, farmers, because he had his teeth knocked out in a fight and says he no longer can perform his night club act of lifting a table with the teeth. A district court jury, after hearing the evidence, decided against Haepp.

Testimony was to the effect that Haepp had tried to crash the Peterson party in the night club and that an altercation ensued. The blow, however, was struck by someone else other than they, according to their testimony.

Babe Haepp and his WCAE star band returned to Bill Green's Casino, Pittsburgh, Friday 1261 for another four-week engagement, replacing the Tommy Carlin band.

## Squelch

Washington, Nov. 30.

Morton Downey, playing at the Hotel Statler, silenced some noisy patrons. A singer and her band, suddenly Morton stopped, turned the spotlight on the table and said with the nicest smile: "Come on up and get in the act. You've become a part of it already."

The talkative foursome were very quiet for the rest of his program.

## Sunbrock No Like Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh, Nov. 30.

Larry Sunbrock, the promoter, doesn't care if he never sees Pittsburgh again, and the feeling's mutual. At the moment, Sunbrock, whose Wild West Rodeo and Hollywood Thrill Show, which played here last week at the Hunt Armory, is contemplating suit against the city for alleged breach of his contract. He signed a contract with the authorities in good faith only to have it turn out to be just a piece of paper. It was the most notable of several incidents involving Sunbrock and the local municipality.

Sunbrock's beef came as a result of his inability to put on two Sunday (28) performances as advertised. Deal with city permitted him to show on that date but several religious leaders who head parishes around the Hunt Armory appealed to Governor Martin of Pennsylvania, and he issued instructions to ban the show. Promoter appealed to local courts and three Common Pleas judges, sitting en banc, ruled that the chief executive has spoken and his word is final. Rodeo was permitted to open on the Sunday before (21) over the objections which, however, were ruled out at the last minute. Safety Director George E. A. Farley was over-ruled by Mayor Scully when Sunbrock agreed to give part of the receipts to charity and after he had pointed out that the 'Iccapades' at nearby Gardens had been permitted to run on Sundays.

## Josephine Houston In D. C. Theatre Booking

Singer Josephine Houston plays her first theatre date in several years week of Dec. 16. She opens then at the Capitol theatre, Washington. No others booked yet.

Mr. Houston is currently playing the Frodo, capital nitery.

## 'Swingtime Follies' In Charlotte Bow Dec. 3

Chicago, Nov. 30. Mike Tufan has completed casting his 'Swingtime Follies' and will open Dec. 3 at the Bowington theatre, Charlotte, N.C., for a tour of the Kempt line.

Shows will Earl Wright and his Dops, Billy Farrell and Lucy Boots, Shirley and Lee, Dean and Brown, Paul Freedman, Jim McNally, Chicago of six, and six-piece band directed by Everett Johnson, who is also company manager.

## Park Central, N. Y., Signs AGVA Pact

Marking completion of its first step in a campaign aimed at unionizing New York hotels booking floor shows, the American Guild of Variety Artists last week concluded negotiations with the Park Central hotel establishing minimums and other AGVA terms for acts booked in the hotel's Copley and Copley room. Designated as an 'A' spot, the hotel hereafter will have minimums of \$75 for principals and \$45 when a chorus plays the room.

AGVA and the Park Central had long been at loggerheads over a clause in the drawing-up contract as to whether responsibility should rest with the hotel proper or the manager of the Copley room. Grover, the vaude and nitery union arguing that the contract should remain in force whether or not Bill Robinson, manager of the room, continues at spot or not. On the other hand, the hotel management contended that the pact should be strictly a Robinson-AGVA affair, but finally conceded to the union's demands.

AGVA, according to Dave Fox, N.Y. local director, will now concentrate its activities on lining up the Commodore Hotel and the Glass Hat nitery, the latter located in the Belmont Plaza hotel.

AGVA last week pacified the Yacht Club, 52nd street, N. Y., to a minimum basic agreement, which provides for minimums of \$75 for principals and \$40 for chorus.

## WB to Solve Sinatra Holdover Fans With 'Reserved' Seat Plan

Warner Bros., Earle and Stanley theatres, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, will run virtual reserved-seat performances by Frank Sinatra when he plays those houses this month, from the tentative plan set up to hold over youngsters from their seats. It is figured that the seat-warmers, if unneeded, could cost Sinatra and the house a minimum of \$1,000 daily. Since the singer's on a 50-50 split from the first dollar (\$15,000 guarantee) the make-up of his customers is vital to his take.

WB's idea is to sell tickets for each performance until the house is at capacity, close the doors and run off the entire show after which the house will be emptied and the procedure repeated. Houses figure to do six shows a day. If h.o. warrants in Boston, where Sinatra opens Thursday 121 at the RKO Boston, the plan is said to be the time-worn one of offering autographed photos backstage to lure the kids out of their seats.

Sinatra will do his 'Lucky Strike' hit Parade broadcasts from each town on his theatre tour, underwriting the costs of the lines himself. This is said to have started a hefty squabble with Music Corp. of America, his managers, recently. Sinatra will be backed on the cut-ins by Sam Saxel's orchestra, conducted by Axel Stordahl. Sinatra's arranger, Slinger will be with him in the theatres. Sunday night broadcasts will be from local CBS outlets, with studio bands loaned by Stordahl.

## Ink Spots Heading New \$9,500 Package

Ink Spots, Ella Fitzgerald, Count Basie, Duke Ellington and a dance act go out on a theatre tour as a package around the first of the year. Truopp opens in Chicago, N. Y., Jan. 7, and thereafter plays split and full weeks in Columbus, Detroit, (Paradise), Cleveland, Chicago, (Regal), Omaha, Minneapolis. Unit will draw \$9,500 plus percentages weekly.

## AGVA in Drive to Clean Up Abuses In Greenwich Village Nightclubs

### The Nazi Switch

Washington, Nov.

Current liquor shortage in the U. S. is being embellished by Nazi propagandists for home consumption with several stories of gang fights and armed hi-jacks attacking armored cars carrying whisky to the parched populace. OWI reports. One newspaper printed a photo of a police bulletin on the encounters read like an army communiqué and show on which front the Americans fight best.

## 2-Drink Limit By Pitt Nitery

Pittsburgh.

Liquor shortages came right out into the open here last week, too, in the town's top spot, too, when William Penn hotel placed cards on the tables of the Terrace Room, classic and dance, informing customers that for the present they would be limited to two drinks each of either scotch, dry or bourbon. Wines, rums and gin will be available.

(Continued on page 40)

Following on the heels of its recently launched campaign to clean up Harlem niteries and bring them into the union fold, the American Guild of Variety Artists served notice this week that at least half a dozen of the smaller Greenwich Village, N. Y., spots must put an end to various abuses which, it contends, are giving the nitery profession a black eye.

It claimed by AGVA that the spots in question are guilty of such abuses as hiring henchmen and using them in broken-down choruses, booking acts far under established minimums, with some of the operators even going so far as to yank performers without giving any notice. The AGVA execs say they're particularly disturbed over the practice of "spot fringes," attributing them to the whims of the nitery ops.

The union last week placed the Village's Corderella nitery on its unfair list because of its refusal to sign a Class 'C' contract with the union, ordering AGVA members to stay out of the spot.

## 206 DET. NITERY FIRE

Detroit.

Fire last weekend destroyed the Hay Loft, nightclub owned by Clayton Wright, just outside Lansing, Mich.

Loss was set at \$20,000.



Singing Star of the AEF

## YVETTE

A BOX-OFFICE SENSATION

EARLE THEATRE, Philadelphia . . .  
PALACE THEATRE, Cleveland . . .  
COPELEY-PLAZA, Boston . . . and

Just Completed a Triumphant  
Engagement at the  
CAPITOL THEATRE, New York

—Exclusive Management—

WILLIAM MORRIS AGENCY, INC.  
New York Chicago Hollywood London

**THE THEATRES OF THE STARS.**

# \* Marcus LOEW

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GENERAL MANAGER

**JESSE KAYE**

BOOKING MANAGER

















# Chi Stays Strong; 'Oklahoma' 27C

## 'Corn' \$17,000, 'Tomorrow' \$15,500

Chicago, Nov. 30.—There was some noticeable fluctuation in grosses last week, but down and out, but all attractions are showing substantial grosses. Oklahoma took top honors with \$27,000 for its second week. Tomorrow, which made a healthy gain of \$2,500 over the previous week, took \$17,000. Corn, which the Selwyn, and Kist and Tell at the Harris is holding around \$15,500. Theater District, which opened Wednesday (24) at the Great North-Succeeding Maid in O'zarks, and was panned by the critics. Management reports a good advance sale, however.

**Estimates for Last Week**  
'Corn is Green,' Studebaker (3d week) (\$10,000, \$2,750). Holding around \$17,000.  
'Good Night, Ladies,' Blackstone (7th week) (1,200; \$2,750). Holding up to \$13,700.  
'Kiss and Tell,' Harris (29th week) (1,000; \$2,750). Still leading straight plays with \$18,500.  
'Oklahoma,' Erlanger (2d week) (1,400; \$1,450). Selling for \$27,000.  
'Tomorrow,' the World (24th week) (1,000; \$2,750). Holding up to \$15,500.  
'Unexpected,' Honeymoon, 'Great' (1st week) (1,400; \$2,750). Opening six performances took \$4,000.

**'Walrus King,'** City Opera House (4th week) (\$3,500, \$1,850). Folded Saturday (25) to \$2,500.  
**'SONS' \$32,500 FOR SOCKO BIZ IN PITTY**

(Pittsburgh, Nov. 30).—'Sons of O'zarks' engagement at Nixon like a house afire, with grosses around \$22,000 last week and last week, nearly 10,000 above opening Saturday figure. Olsen and Johnson musical unit clean downstairs every night right from the start, and with a big holiday in there to help, house had \$30,000 for every evening performance. Management, however, was not so sure.

That the new Olsen-Johnson musical, however, was not so sure. Wednesday (24) at the Harris registered \$22,500, but the new play, which the film crowd stayed away from the left attraction. Indication of that is the fact that while the \$3,800 seats were going absolutely clean, there was only a handful of patrons save at a couple of performances.

Nixon currently has 'Blithe Spirit' (1st week) with 100 patrons, ages 15 and up, with Chi cast, and a full month is being recommended. The musical in Monday (6), followed by 'The Chatterbox,' which is Maxwell Anderson's new drama. 'Storm Operation,' coming under auspicious auspices. 8th week, Gilbert and Sullivan.

# 'SPIRIT' TERRIFIC \$17,600 IN TORONTO

Toronto, Nov. 30.—'Blithe Spirit' crashed through with a terrific, unstimulated gross last week. Latter half of week saw turn-around business, with Royal Alexandra (1st-weeker) scaled to \$2,500. Advance on 'Student Prince' (current) was close to \$6,000.

## 'Jr. Miss' Big \$18,500 K.C.-Omaha Split Wk.

Kansas City, Nov. 30.—Five performances of 'Jr. Miss,' the second show to be booked into the Music Hall of the Municipal Auditorium by A. N. Atterbury, for the new season, grossed an okay \$14,275 last week. The show, which is a musical and three nights show. 'Crisis' seats scaled at a \$2.00 top. House gave nice reviews.

'Student Prince' is underlined for five performances. Dec. 6 week.  
'Miss' \$24,000 in Omaha.  
Omaha, Nov. 30.—In a single night performance here at the Omaha Chit, which was farmed an estimated \$3,800 last week, top was \$2.75.

## 'Father' 12G, Indpls.

Indianapolis, Nov. 30.—'Life With Father,' playing the English (1,500) for the third annual engagement, at Harry \$12,000 in the week closing Saturday (27) at \$2.75 top. Figure is easily good in view of tough competition from the week ending Nov. 30. Some Henie dance show here to back all week. Advance sale is promising for 'Doughgirls' here, which is a legit attraction on local program until after Christmas.

# Road' \$8,300, N. H.

New Haven, Nov. 30.—Repeat stand of 'Tobacco Road,' plugged as 'Tennessee Road,' played a full week (22-27) at the Shubert to a gross of about \$8,300. The show for eight shows, this was okay.

Break-in of New Haven Freebird musical, 'Jackpot,' is in its third half (2-4), and next week 'Blotch' will continue the musical to schedule with a three-day stopover (11-13).

'Cov.' 21' bows in Dec. 16-18.

## 'Kiss' 23' or 'In Phil' Bow, Now 18G for 'Turtle'

Philadelphia, Nov. 30.—Philly is again a four-theater legit city this week, and will continue to until the holidays at any rate, and from all indications, a good part of the rest of the season.

The Erlanger realigned last night (28) to the 23rd, and a 3-5-7-9-11-13-15-17-19-21-23-25-27-29-31-33-35-37-39-41-43-45-47-49-51-53-55-57-59-61-63-65-67-69-71-73-75-77-79-81-83-85-87-89-91-93-95-97-99-101-103-105-107-109-111-113-115-117-119-121-123-125-127-129-131-133-135-137-139-141-143-145-147-149-151-153-155-157-159-161-163-165-167-169-171-173-175-177-179-181-183-185-187-189-191-193-195-197-199-201-203-205-207-209-211-213-215-217-219-221-223-225-227-229-231-233-235-237-239-241-243-245-247-249-251-253-255-257-259-261-263-265-267-269-271-273-275-277-279-281-283-285-287-289-291-293-295-297-299-301-303-305-307-309-311-313-315-317-319-321-323-325-327-329-331-333-335-337-339-341-343-345-347-349-351-353-355-357-359-361-363-365-367-369-371-373-375-377-379-381-383-385-387-389-391-393-395-397-399-401-403-405-407-409-411-413-415-417-419-421-423-425-427-429-431-433-435-437-439-441-443-445-447-449-451-453-455-457-459-461-463-465-467-469-471-473-475-477-479-481-483-485-487-489-491-493-495-497-499-501-503-505-507-509-511-513-515-517-519-521-523-525-527-529-531-533-535-537-539-541-543-545-547-549-551-553-555-557-559-561-563-565-567-569-571-573-575-577-579-581-583-585-587-589-591-593-595-597-599-601-603-605-607-609-611-613-615-617-619-621-623-625-627-629-631-633-635-637-639-641-643-645-647-649-651-653-655-657-659-661-663-665-667-669-671-673-675-677-679-681-683-685-687-689-691-693-695-697-699-701-703-705-707-709-711-713-715-717-719-721-723-725-727-729-731-733-735-737-739-741-743-745-747-749-751-753-755-757-759-761-763-765-767-769-771-773-775-777-779-781-783-785-787-789-791-793-795-797-799-801-803-805-807-809-811-813-815-817-819-821-823-825-827-829-831-833-835-837-839-841-843-845-847-849-851-853-855-857-859-861-863-865-867-869-871-873-875-877-879-881-883-885-887-889-891-893-895-897-899-901-903-905-907-909-911-913-915-917-919-921-923-925-927-929-931-933-935-937-939-941-943-945-947-949-951-953-955-957-959-961-963-965-967-969-971-973-975-977-979-981-983-985-987-989-991-993-995-997-999-1001-1003-1005-1007-1009-1011-1013-1015-1017-1019-1021-1023-1025-1027-1029-1031-1033-1035-1037-1039-1041-1043-1045-1047-1049-1051-1053-1055-1057-1059-1061-1063-1065-1067-1069-1071-1073-1075-1077-1079-1081-1083-1085-1087-1089-1091-1093-1095-1097-1099-1101-1103-1105-1107-1109-1111-1113-1115-1117-1119-1121-1123-1125-1127-1129-1131-1133-1135-1137-1139-1141-1143-1145-1147-1149-1151-1153-1155-1157-1159-1161-1163-1165-1167-1169-1171-1173-1175-1177-1179-1181-1183-1185-1187-1189-1191-1193-1195-1197-1199-1201-1203-1205-1207-1209-1211-1213-1215-1217-1219-1221-1223-1225-1227-1229-1231-1233-1235-1237-1239-1241-1243-1245-1247-1249-1251-1253-1255-1257-1259-1261-1263-1265-1267-1269-1271-1273-1275-1277-1279-1281-1283-1285-1287-1289-1291-1293-1295-1297-1299-1301-1303-1305-1307-1309-1311-1313-1315-1317-1319-1321-1323-1325-1327-1329-1331-1333-1335-1337-1339-1341-1343-1345-1347-1349-1351-1353-1355-1357-1359-1361-1363-1365-1367-1369-1371-1373-1375-1377-1379-1381-1383-1385-1387-1389-1391-1393-1395-1397-1399-1401-1403-1405-1407-1409-1411-1413-1415-1417-1419-1421-1423-1425-1427-1429-1431-1433-1435-1437-1439-1441-1443-1445-1447-1449-1451-1453-1455-1457-1459-1461-1463-1465-1467-1469-1471-1473-1475-1477-1479-1481-1483-1485-1487-1489-1491-1493-1495-1497-1499-1501-1503-1505-1507-1509-1511-1513-1515-1517-1519-1521-1523-1525-1527-1529-1531-1533-1535-1537-1539-1541-1543-1545-1547-1549-1551-1553-1555-1557-1559-1561-1563-1565-1567-1569-1571-1573-1575-1577-1579-1581-1583-1585-1587-1589-1591-1593-1595-1597-1599-1601-1603-1605-1607-1609-1611-1613-1615-1617-1619-1621-1623-1625-1627-1629-1631-1633-1635-1637-1639-1641-1643-1645-1647-1649-1651-1653-1655-1657-1659-1661-1663-1665-1667-1669-1671-1673-1675-1677-1679-1681-1683-1685-1687-1689-1691-1693-1695-1697-1699-1701-1703-1705-1707-1709-1711-1713-1715-1717-1719-1721-1723-1725-1727-1729-1731-1733-1735-1737-1739-1741-1743-1745-1747-1749-1751-1753-1755-1757-1759-1761-1763-1765-1767-1769-1771-1773-1775-1777-1779-1781-1783-1785-1787-1789-1791-1793-1795-1797-1799-1801-1803-1805-1807-1809-1811-1813-1815-1817-1819-1821-1823-1825-1827-1829-1831-1833-1835-1837-1839-1841-1843-1845-1847-1849-1851-1853-1855-1857-1859-1861-1863-1865-1867-1869-1871-1873-1875-1877-1879-1881-1883-1885-1887-1889-1891-1893-1895-1897-1899-1901-1903-1905-1907-1909-1911-1913-1915-1917-1919-1921-1923-1925-1927-1929-1931-1933-1935-1937-1939-1941-1943-1945-1947-1949-1951-1953-1955-1957-1959-1961-1963-1965-1967-1969-1971-1973-1975-1977-1979-1981-1983-1985-1987-1989-1991-1993-1995-1997-1999-2001-2003-2005-2007-2009-2011-2013-2015-2017-2019-2021-2023-2025-2027-2029-2031-2033-2035-2037-2039-2041-2043-2045-2047-2049-2051-2053-2055-2057-2059-2061-2063-2065-2067-2069-2071-2073-2075-2077-2079-2081-2083-2085-2087-2089-2091-2093-2095-2097-2099-2101-2103-2105-2107-2109-2111-2113-2115-2117-2119-2121-2123-2125-2127-2129-2131-2133-2135-2137-2139-2141-2143-2145-2147-2149-2151-2153-2155-2157-2159-2161-2163-2165-2167-2169-2171-2173-2175-2177-2179-2181-2183-2185-2187-2189-2191-2193-2195-2197-2199-2201-2203-2205-2207-2209-2211-2213-2215-2217-2219-2221-2223-2225-2227-2229-2231-2233-2235-2237-2239-2241-2243-2245-2247-2249-2251-2253-2255-2257-2259-2261-2263-2265-2267-2269-2271-2273-2275-2277-2279-2281-2283-2285-2287-2289-2291-2293-2295-2297-2299-2301-2303-2305-2307-2309-2311-2313-2315-2317-2319-2321-2323-2325-2327-2329-2331-2333-2335-2337-2339-2341-2343-2345-2347-2349-2351-2353-2355-2357-2359-2361-2363-2365-2367-2369-2371-2373-2375-2377-2379-2381-2383-2385-2387-2389-2391-2393-2395-2397-2399-2401-2403-2405-2407-2409-2411-2413-2415-2417-2419-2421-2423-2425-2427-2429-2431-2433-2435-2437-2439-2441-2443-2445-2447-2449-2451-2453-2455-2457-2459-2461-2463-2465-2467-2469-2471-2473-2475-2477-2479-2481-2483-2485-2487-2489-2491-2493-2495-2497-2499-2501-2503-2505-2507-2509-2511-2513-2515-2517-2519-2521-2523-2525-2527-2529-2531-2533-2535-2537-2539-2541-2543-2545-2547-2549-2551-2553-2555-2557-2559-2561-2563-2565-2567-2569-2571-2573-2575-2577-2579-2581-2583-2585-2587-2589-2591-2593-2595-2597-2599-2601-2603-2605-2607-2609-2611-2613-2615-2617-2619-2621-2623-2625-2627-2629-2631-2633-2635-2637-2639-2641-2643-2645-2647-2649-2651-2653-2655-2657-2659-2661-2663-2665-2667-2669-2671-2673-2675-2677-2679-2681-2683-2685-2687-2689-2691-2693-2695-2697-2699-2701-2703-2705-2707-2709-2711-2713-2715-2717-2719-2721-2723-2725-2727-2729-2731-2733-2735-2737-2739-2741-2743-2745-2747-2749-2751-2753-2755-2757-2759-2761-2763-2765-2767-2769-2771-2773-2775-2777-2779-2781-2783-2785-2787-2789-2791-2793-2795-2797-2799-2801-2803-2805-2807-2809-2811-2813-2815-2817-2819-2821-2823-2825-2827-2829-2831-2833-2835-2837-2839-2841-2843-2845-2847-2849-2851-2853-2855-2857-2859-2861-2863-2865-2867-2869-2871-2873-2875-2877-2879-2881-2883-2885-2887-2889-2891-2893-2895-2897-2899-2901-2903-2905-2907-2909-2911-2913-2915-2917-2919-2921-2923-2925-2927-2929-2931-2933-2935-2937-2939-2941-2943-2945-2947-2949-2951-2953-2955-2957-2959-2961-2963-2965-2967-2969-2971-2973-2975-2977-2979-2981-2983-2985-2987-2989-2991-2993-2995-2997-2999-3001-3003-3005-3007-3009-3011-3013-3015-3017-3019-3021-3023-3025-3027-3029-3031-3033-3035-3037-3039-3041-3043-3045-3047-3049-3051-3053-3055-3057-3059-3061-3063-3065-3067-3069-3071-3073-3075-3077-3079-3081-3083-3085-3087-3089-3091-3093-3095-3097-3099-3101-3103-3105-3107-3109-3111-3113-3115-3117-3119-3121-3123-3125-3127-3129-3131-3133-3135-3137-3139-3141-3143-3145-3147-3149-3151-3153-3155-3157-3159-3161-3163-3165-3167-3169-3171-3173-3175-3177-3179-3181-3183-3185-3187-3189-3191-3193-3195-3197-3199-3201-3203-3205-3207-3209-3211-3213-3215-3217-3219-3221-3223-3225-3227-3229-3231-3233-3235-3237-3239-3241-3243-3245-3247-3249-3251-3253-3255-3257-3259-3261-3263-3265-3267-3269-3271-3273-3275-3277-3279-3281-3283-3285-3287-3289-3291-3293-3295-3297-3299-3301-3303-3305-3307-3309-3311-3313-3315-3317-3319-3321-3323-3325-3327-3329-3331-3333-3335-3337-3339-3341-3343-3345-3347-3349-3351-3353-3355-3357-3359-3361-3363-3365-3367-3369-3371-3373-3375-3377-3379-3381-3383-3385-3387-3389-3391-3393-3395-3397-3399-3401-3403-3405-3407-3409-3411-3413-3415-3417-3419-3421-3423-3425-3427-3429-3431-3433-3435-3437-3439-3441-3443-3445-3447-3449-3451-3453-3455-3457-3459-3461-3463-3465-3467-3469-3471-3473-3475-3477-3479-3481-3483-3485-3487-3489-3491-3493-3495-3497-3499-3501-3503-3505-3507-3509-3511-3513-3515-3517-3519-3521-3523-3525-3527-3529-3531-3533-3535-3537-3539-3541-3543-3545-3547-3549-3551-3553-3555-3557-3559-3561-3563-3565-3567-3569-3571-3573-3575-3577-3579-3581-3583-3585-3587-3589-3591-3593-3595-3597-3599-3601-3603-3605-3607-3609-3611-3613-3615-3617-3619-3621-3623-3625-3627-3629-3631-3633-3635-3637-3639-3641-3643-3645-3647-3649-3651-3653-3655-3657-3659-3661-3663-3665-3667-3669-3671-3673-3675-3677-3679-3681-3683-3685-3687-3689-3691-3693-3695-3697-3699-3701-3703-3705-3707-3709-3711-3713-3715-3717-3719-3721-3723-3725-3727-3729-3731-3733-3735-3737-3739-3741-3743-3745-3747-3749-3751-3753-3755-3757-3759-3761-3763-3765-3767-3769-3771-3773-3775-3777-3779-3781-3783-3785-3787-3789-3791-3793-3795-3797-3799-3801-3803-3805-3807-3809-3811-3813-3815-3817-3819-3821-3823-3825-3827-3829-3831-3833-3835-3837-3839-3841-3843-3845-3847-3849-3851-3853-3855-3857-3859-3861-3863-3865-3867-3869-3871-3873-3875-3877-3879-3881-3883-3885-3887-3889-3891-3893-3895-3897-3899-3901-3903-3905-3907-3909-3911-3913-3915-3917-3919-3921-3923-3925-3927-3929-3931-3933-3935-3937-3939-3941-3943-3945-3947-3949-3951-3953-3955-3957-3959-3961-3963-3965-3967-3969-3971-3973-3975-3977-3979-3981-3983-3985-3987-3989-3991-3993-3995-3997-3999-4001-4003-4005-4007-4009-4011-4013-4015-4017-4019-4021-4023-4025-4027-4029-4031-4033-4035-4037-4039-4041-4043-4045-4047-4049-4051-4053-4055-4057-4059-4061-4063-4065-4067-4069-4071-4073-4075-4077-4079-4081-4083-4085-4087-4089-4091-4093-4095-4097-4099-4101-4103-4105-4107-4109-4111-4113-4115-4117-4119-4121-4123-4125-4127-4129-4131-4133-4135-4137-4139-4141-4143-4145-4147-4149-4151-4153-4155-4157-4159-4161-4163-4165-4167-4169-4171-4173-4175-4177-4179-4181-4183-4185-4187-4189-4191-4193-4195-4197-4199-4201-4203-4205-4207-4209-4211-4213-4215-4217-4219-4221-4223-4225-4227-4229-4231-4233-4235-4237-4239-4241-424







INITIAL  
NEW YORK APPEARANCE—  
**78 G's 1st WEEK**  
**65 G's 2nd WEEK**  
—VARIETY  
**AND HELD OVER**  
**FOR A 3rd WEEK AT THE**  
**CAPITOL, NEW YORK**



"Lawrence Welk and his orchestra have made a big hit at the Capitol."

—Word Magazine, N. Y. Sun

"In his first week at the Capitol Theatre Maestro Welk has captured the heart of Broadway. He now belongs to New York."

—Nick Kenny, Daily Mirror

"It's the initial Broadway appearance for the Lawrence Welk orchestra and he clicks with his chavira and some crack novelties and some crack arrangements... House was capacity last show Thursday (11)."

—Rose, Variety

"...a band with a personality, and Harry Goufain has put them in a setting which brings out every inch of their individuality."

—Ted Hay, New York Post

"Entire turn shows up well... jammed house present at show caught."

—Joe Cohan, Billboard



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VOL. 152 No. 13

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1943

PRICE 25 CENTS

# NEWS OF THE BIG GAINS IN THE ECALADE

## La Guardia, at Times Sq. Service Flag Unveiling, Kudos Show Biz War Effort

By DON WALSH

Show business honored its members in uniform and paid homage to 135 who have made the supreme sacrifice with the dedication in Times Square, N. Y., yesterday (7) of a permanent service flag representing the entertainment industry. In addition to the 135 Gold Stars, another large star on the flag denotes 78,808 showpeople now in the armed services and the numbers will be revised every three months.

Mayor LaGuardia officiated at the ceremonies and, in a brief address, paid tribute, not only to those of the industry who are in active service, but those serving on the home front who, he said, "always were quick to respond cheerfully to appeals for their services at camp shows and other entertainment ventures."

"Let this service flag always remind us," the Mayor said, "of the huge job facing all of us before this war is won. We at home must support our fighting men by doing everything that's in us and to the limit of our ability."

Others taking part in the dedication were Lawrence Tibbett, president of the American Guild of Actors (Continued on page 42)

## LAY THAT SCRATCH SHEET DOWN, PAPA!

WINS, which broadcasts race results each weekday afternoon in the N. Y. area, was called upon last week to expedite an emergency operation on the seven-year-old daughter of a Long Island horse owner. The little girl was rushed to the hospital by neighbors, but doctors refused to operate without the usual formality of obtaining family permission.

After several efforts to reach the girl's parents failed, some members her father's devotion to the improvement of the breed and the N. Y. station to interrupt their racing program with the urgent appeal. According to WINS staffers, the girl's father responded within five minutes and the emergency operation was performed without further delay.

## Jap Repatriates Hail 'Yankee Doodle Dandy'

Capt. Si grid Ericson, who skipped the repatriate ship into New York last week, related how, on the Swedish ship's previous trip out of San Francisco in which he voyaged 1,500 exchangees from the U.S. to Japan, the cargo of Nip passengers wildly acclaimed the screening of 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' on board ship while in Japan was.

Capt. Ericson explained that he had along a number of films for the entertainment of the exchangees, particularly the U. S. repatriates slated for the return voyage home, but because of the Gripsholm's strict neutrality stance he had to close to (Continued on page 24)

## You 21? Gotta Prove It In Pitt to Get Plastered

Pittsburgh, Dec. 7.—Association of Pittsburgh Hosts, representing newly-organized group of local nitery owners, will take no more chances on running afoul of the liquor board by possibly serving minors.

In the past, cafe men have been reluctant to ask age of doubtful customers for fear of antagonizing those who might be over 21. Members are now having signs printed and placed prominently over their doorways. They read: "You Must Be 21 Years of Age. You Must Prove It!"

## Radio Execs Burn As Educators Nix Parley; Quiz Kids Steal Show

Chicago, Dec. 7.

Three-day session of the School Broadcast Conference held here last week proved a washout when the Quiz Kids drew a capacity house by opening night, while the remainder of the conference, which was strictly business, averaged 35 educators per session.

The three-day show, which might well be used as a showcase on 'What's Wrong With Education in America' (Continued on page 12)

## OPA TO CURB TILTING NEW YR.'S EVE PRICES

New Year's eve nitery and hotel tabs will be pegged at last year's levels by OPA, according to the Philadelphia regional office, which it is expected, will be followed by similar announcements throughout the rest of the country. Enforcement procedure to prohibit price gouging will be the same as in other OPA violations, with a corps of inspectors actively checking night spots during the traditional hours of revelry.

Only exceptions to the New Year's Eve price ceiling will be in places where either more or better food, entertainment and liquor are being served than was the case last year, according to the Philly announcement. Owners of places during their offering must file applications listing the improvements. By Dec. 15 to receive necessary permission to top their prices.

Nitery of hotels that did not present shows a year ago are given until Dec. 20 to file their intentions of providing entertainment this year and a revised price scale will be worked out and approved by OPA. (Continued on page 12)

## Funded Debt of Seven Majors Declines \$226,500,000—Warners Has Paid Off \$60,000,000 Without Reorganization and May Reduce Debt By An Additional \$5,000,000

### TOP CASH POSITIONS

By MORI KRUSHEN

Cash position and corporate structure of the \$2,000,000,000 motion picture industry is now the strongest in its history and, when compared with the panicky years a decade ago, shows an almost unbelievable recovery.

The funded debt of seven major companies has declined by approximately \$226,500,000 during the 1933-43 period. In some cases this re-

(Continued on page 47)

## Band Sellout For New Yr.'s Eve

Agencies keen to be already picked virtually clean of band talent for New Year's Eve at prices considerably above last year's. Combination of the shortage of available music and the general increases in costs finds bands that in normal times wouldn't be very expensive drawing \$2,500 with a choice of 50% of the gross or flat guarantee as high as \$2,500 for that evening. The price is the same for all types of talent.

There is a tendency this year by some leaders to lay off for the holidays, despite the abnormally high prices. Russ Moran and Gracie Barrie's bands are the only two so far expressing a desire to rest during that period.

## MIRANDA SALVAGE JOB ON WELLES PIC

Un' stood that negotiations are under way to sign Carmen Miranda for the Brazilian picture, 'It's All True,' partially produced by Orson Welles for RKO. With some \$100,000 up in the uncompleted negative, plans are to secure Miss Miranda for a prominent spot in the picture Dec. 15 in an effort to salvage the investment.

Miss Miranda is under contract to 20th-Fox, but there is a possibility that she may be available for this particular assignment, while working in Brazil, owing to the inter-American angles involved. Considerable additional footage would have to be shot.

## Feudin' Ratoff, Baker Wind Up on Same Show

Bookings of Gregory Ratoff, as guest on the 'Take It or Leave It' program Sunday night (13) may end the film director-actor's long-standing feud with Phil Baker, m.c. of the show. Pair haven't spoken since a quarrel many years ago, when all were associated with the late Ben Bernie in play production ventures. Ratoff was booked for the date after Milton Blow, whose agency has the program, met him in New York. Without Baker's knowledge, Blow, who was unaware of the feud, asked Bill Murray, of the William Morris office, to set Ratoff on the program.

## Army 'Victimized' By H'wood P.A., War Dept. Hints on Laraine Day

Washington, Dec. 7.—That Laraine Day blab on the Coast last week has made the biggest splash in Army Special Services circles since Al Jolson took a whack at the overseas motion pictures—and the Army, mad as a wet hen, has dropped more than one hint that it has been victimized by a smart Hollywood press agent out to earn his money.

War Department hit back twice to counteract the charges that officers in camps monopolize the glamour girl movie-louiders and prevent them from exercising their charms among the G.I.s. Twenty-four hours after Laraine Day had made her report to the Hollywood Victory Committee—and the press—the Army completed a check of the literary which showed that her 'pur' had followed a perfectly normal routine.

The 'reports' according to one (Continued on page 24)

In an ambitious move designed to reach out to as many of the entertainment-starved Allied fighting forces as possible, and cued to the Yuletide 'good will toward men,' an international Xmas show business package project is currently being evolved. Stars of the British stage and screen are being lined up in a gigantic Xmas-to-New Year's exchange program of entertainment, to supplement the army of U. S. performers who are currently overseas, with the combined pool of British-American show people being channeled into Allied theatre of operation to bring holiday cheer to the troops.

Boy Xmas there will be at least 100 U. S. performers overseas in the ETO (European Theatre of Operations) alone, under auspices of USO-Camp Shows, Inc., which is expediting the routing of the entertainers to the overseas bases in order to allow for a maximum roster of activity for the holidays. As the Yule program shapes up, the Yank soldiers in greasepaint' will go 'all-out' on entertainment through the holiday period, doing shows for British as well as Yank GIs, with their numbers (Continued on page 42)

## CAL. THEATRE SLEEPS SOLDIERS ON LEAVE

Los Angeles, Dec. 7.

Sleeping accommodations for soldiers and sailors on leave are provided, in part, by the Fox theatre, Riverside, which turns over its 1,500 seats, with pillows and heat, every night after the last performance. Roy Hunt, who operates the theatre, in partnership with Fox-Theatre, shows the house open to uniformed lads until 8:30 a. m. Other-wise, many of them would sleep on park benches, housing and hotel conditions being what they are in Southern California.

## The Hour Of Charm

All-Girl Orchestra and Choir

Conducted by Phil Spitalny











# WALLING IS A PLEASURE

## One National Exhib Outfit Predicted, Urged by Rodgers; Sees Unity Need

Advocating one national exhibitor organization so that there would be no conflict of action, William F. Rodgers, ex. of Loew's in charge of sales, at a luncheon session with members of the trades Thursday (7) also discussed an increase in exhibitors, larger blocks of pictures with continuance of cancellations, policy of Metro in helping exhibitors to improve business, and defended his company's position with respect to designations. Recently on the Coast to see new product, he also expatiated on pictures that have come off the assembly line but are not yet ready for release.

Predicting that the future will surely see the creation of one exhibitor trade association as well as less selfishness by distributor as well as exhibitor, Rodgers pointed to the lack of unity and opposition to views among the many exhibitor organizations now existing as reflecting that "theater owners are nothing short of ally." Their interests can best be protected, he added, through one national association such as, for instance, in connection with admission taxes. The Metro sales chief pointed out the fact that in lack of unity, one exhibitor will absorb taxes while another pays it on the public, this often creating industry problems with respect to clearance, among other things.

It is Rodgers' presumption that the Government never intended that theatres should absorb the tax but that the public should pay it, with this policy, if pursued by the theatre, eliminating variations in scales as now charged by numerous competitive houses. An example is one exhibitor charging 25c, for instance, while another tacks it on to a 25c admission and charges 25c. Latterly, he added, he has seen exhibitors who should have priority on product.

**Public Decides**  
Saying that Metro finds it difficult to make similar pictures and to find a market for them now, Rodgers said that an exhibitor can complain about terms asked of him but that "we don't need anything to tell us we're not equal to exhibitors." Metro is going to continue making designations only after exhibitors have placed 70 engagements to test their strength. The public decides, not us," he stressed, referring to the resolution recently passed by Allied Theatre Owners of (Continued on page 21)

## Mono's General Biz Out of Hollywood Works OK Sez Brody

Operation of the distribution department from the Hollywood Monogram studio is working out very satisfactorily for this company, according to its general sales manager, Steven Brody, who is at present in N. Y. This was the only company which transferred presidential, executive and sales operations to the Coast a couple years ago when all producers-distributors were considering such a step, nearest in this on the part of majors being the transfer to Hollywood on a permanent basis of Harry M. Warner, president of WB, and Charlieinfeld, national director of advertising and publicity. Brody directs sales policy from Hollywood, where W. Ray Johnston makes headquarters as president, and leaves the negotiation of deals to franchise holders and branch managers in the various territories. Certain of the franchise-holders have exchanges in more than one territory and frequently the deals made are those negotiated by the local branch heads and their salesmen.

**Metro's Skating Find**  
"Michael Kirby, Canadian skating star, current, with the Ice Follies at Madison Square Garden, N. Y., has been signed by Metro for films. Skater, first spotted by talent scouts when the ice show opened last September in Hollywood, will be developed along acting lines and not featured for his blade routines.

## Bill Warner's Son Killed

Li. William Gilbert Warner, son of William Warner, 20th-Fox office manager in N. Y., was killed in action in the recent battle of the Gilbert Islands, according to word received last week.

Li. Warner is survived by his parents, two sisters and a brother.

## Rodgers Presides At Metro's Chi Sales Meet; Study Trends

Chicago, Dec. 7. Opening a four-day mid-season sales meeting here yesterday (Monday) to discuss sales policy, new product, shifting populations and short circuits for the year, which comprises 42 territories totaling 66 reels, Metro district managers will follow the current sessions up with meetings in the various 10 district zones to go over new product and policy with branch managers.

Metro's second group for this season (1943-44) will run the same as the first, a total of 12 pictures. Presiding at the convention here, also attended by leading homeoffice distribution executives, William F. Rodgers, general sales manager, held a luncheon meeting with Chicago exhibitors today (Tuesday). He recently held similar sessions in Atlanta, Dallas and Minneapolis.

At yesterday's get-together Rodgers, in commenting on Metro's product and policy, said that sales during the past year hit a new high for the company and that "we are continuously forging ahead, both in production and sales, and will keep on serving the industry to the best advantage of all concerned."

Major Dean Davenport, who was a second lieutenant when he was on the raid over Tokyo, was introduced yesterday (Monday). He will act as technical advisor on "30 Seconds Over Tokyo," which Metro will film.

## 'EASIEST EVER,' SAY PEDDLERS

Dec. 7. Film salesmen here averring that "selling is a pleasure"—the easiest that it ever has been.

They attribute condition mainly to reduced Hollywood production, which has put many exhibitors on the "average" sales level, that they won't have sufficient film to operate normally. Generally good business and optimism regarding the outlook, also have created a buying mood, according to the salesmen. There's less haggling over terms than ever before, they say.

The boys also point out that the selling in small groups also helps to make for a salesman's paradise. Local exchanges are doing their biggest business in history. For the first time here the independents are enjoying great prospects despite the fact that this still is primarily a single feature territory.

Indicative of the present condition is the fact that 20th-Fox office here stands first among all the company's branches in sales and that Universal's local exchange led the entire procession in the Nite J. Blumberg Testimonial drive recently concluded.

## Par Sells Two Blocks'

Paramount has closed a deal for its first two blocks this season (1943-44), totaling nine pictures, with Co-operative Theatres of Michigan, long-established and powerful book-incoming combination embracing more than 100 theatres.

The contract was negotiated by Hugh Owen, Paramount's eastern district sales manager, with James Sharkey, film buyer for the territory, who came to N. Y. for the purpose.

## In For Trimming

Hollywood, Dec. 7. Republic's cutting rooms are doing a capacity business with five pictures completed in November.

In various stages of editing are "The Monster," "Pistol Packin' Mama," "Carnegie in Burlesque," "My Best Gal" and "Mojave Firebrand."

## Cut in Proposed 20% Amusement Tax Looks Slim; Senators Unimpressed By Witnesses; 30% Bite on Niteries

## Here We Go Again

Hollywood, Dec. 7. Maureen O'Sullivan returns to the jungle after two years to resume her old status as Johnny Weissmuller's mate.

Next of the tree-creeping series will be "Tarzan and the Amazons," to be produced for RKO release by Sol Lesser, with Chita the Chim featured.

## Newsreels at Front Get Film Faster Via New Raw Stock Tieup

Washington, Dec. 7. U. S. Army has approved a plan under which newsreel cameramen in the war zones will be issued film from the Army stocks in exchange for priorities in this country. Plan worked out by Claude Collins, WAC newsreel coordinator here, and War Department officials, does not cover cameras and lenses although this had been reported under study.

For all raw stock issued to the lensers overseas, each newsreel in this country will turn over either an equivalent amount in the U. S. or a priority order covering it. Under study for some time, this plan was held up until agreement could be obtained from various Army field commanders. Hereafter, the reels will not have to carry large stocks of raw film abroad with them, or have it shipped from home.

## MINOCO'S 470TH SHORTE

Minico Pictures last week wound up the 470th coin-machine film made in the east.

Minico plans to go into feature film production next season.

Washington, Dec. 7. A big change of having the proposed 20% admissions tax back boked soon here despite an impression that Congress would fold the industry's case to the story to the Senate Finance Committee last week. Committee members crowded the witnesses, generally giving them little time, and occasionally heckled them to know how much longer they would speak.

Several Senators witnesses their arguments that an additional 10% levy, if the banister would danger theatres were old stu. The Senators said those were the same arguments as were advanced when the first 10% tax was placed and that none of them had been put out of business.

There likewise appeared little hope that the proposed 30% bite on story, object and live shows, and, oddly enough, the one amendment which appeared to have a chance of being advanced was for a 3% tax on parimutuel receipts has been approved by the House. It was reported that a building in the Senate on this, because of the substantial revenue loss, down by several States from the mutuels. Similar tax was proposed a year ago and was licked, and the Senators (from racing state) think they can beat it again.

Spoken for the film theatres, apparently reconnoitered to an increase in the present tax, did not waste their time asking that the increase be cut down to 10%. Instead, they suggested compromises which would not hurt as badly.

## Exhibitors

Lead-off man was Ed Kuykendall, MPAA proxy, who suggested the "absolute maximum" that the theatres can stand. He recommended the plan of Colin F. Stam, expert for the House Ways and Means Committee. Stam had offered his committee a compromise of 2c tax on each 15c of admission, instead of 2c on each 10c.

Harry Reed, president of the Texas Theatre Owners, Inc., offered a resolution by that body for a 2c tax on each 15c unit of admission (Continued on page 24)

## Your Best Salesman In All Markets—

## Present and Future

30th ANNIVERSARY



POST-WAR SHOW BUSINESS NUMBER

To Be Published Late In December

## Ned Depinet Leaves Sinatra To Valentino In RKO Vs. Time Suit

Frank Sinatra, star of RKO's forthcoming "Hugger and Bugger," has been freed by final appeal, RKO president, on Tuesday (7) as the film industry's latest box-office attraction over the days of the late Rudolf Valentino.

Depinet testified for the second day at the trial of the RKO suit against Time, Inc., U. S. Federal court, which seeks to restrain the release of the March of Time show, "Marie Antoinette," scheduled for release the end of December. Depinet testified that he was the signing star, whom RKO had under exclusive contract. Sinatra was shot, singing at the WAVES training station at Hunter College, N. Y.

Depinet testified that much of his success in motion pictures depends on the proper presentation in Sinatra's first picture. It means a star and not incidental as in his singing for the WAVES. It is, he testified, a "big deal" with the RKO.

(Continued on page 12)

## Now Turn the Key

Hollywood, Dec. 7. Joseph Markovitz seems up half of his double check a screenplay, script and producer's key of "Kingdom" at 20th-Fox and is readying the script to production late in January. John Stahl, director, the picture, based on the best-seller by J. Cronin.

Mackinlay Kantor's

# HAPPY LAND

DON AMECHE • FRANCES DEE  
HARRY CAREY • ANN RUTHERFORD

and CARA WILLIAMS • RICHARD CRANE  
HENRY MORGAN • MINOR WATSON • DICKIE MOORE

Directed by  
IRVING PICHEL • KENNETH MACGOWAN

Screen Play by Kathryn Scola and Julien Josephson

64

P

Pre

## CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS!

State-wide celebration in Iowa! . . . Banquet honors "native son" Mackinlay Kantor! . . . Full-page announcements in Des Moines papers! . . . 6 day campaign in 64 other newspapers! . . . Contest sponsored by papers and radio search for parents contributing most to war effort! . . . Editorial page comment! . . . Radio saturation on 14 stations! . . . Elaborate ceremonies on opening night! (Dec. 2) . . . State and city officials attend! . . . Unending national publicity! . . . Biggest send-off a picture could get!

It's



**theatre**



GALA "HAPPY LAND" CELEBRATION  
AS 64 THEATRES IN IOWA AND NE-  
BRASKA PARTICIPATE IN THE BIGGEST  
PREMIERE IN INDUSTRY'S HISTORY!

**miere!**



**20** Century-Fox Show-Selling!









**WARNER!**

THAN  
-THE SAME  
'PRINCESS O'R  
THE SAME COMPANY MADE  
'OLD ACQUAINTANCE'  
THE SAME COMPANY MADE  
'NORTHERN PURSUIT'  
THE SAME COMPANY MADE







# 'Maor-Vaude Plus Chester (2d) Sock \$32,500, Frisco: 'Diary' Huge 29G, H.O.

San Francisco, Dec. 7.—Town is full of holiday parties, but 'Guadalupian Diary,' after setting record at Paramount last week, is strong on holdovers. 'Jack London,' at United Artists, also is big on second nights. 'The Chester and second week, headed by Three Sisters, is snail's pace. Golden Gate.

**Estimates for This Week:**  
 Alexander (F.W.C.) (1,149; 35-60)—'Maor-Vaude' (RKO) (1,240; 35-75) \$32,500. Last week best \$20,000.  
 Fox (F.W.C.) (2,450; 35-75)—'Diary' (WB) (2d wk) (1,447; 35-75) \$22,000. Last week strong \$23,000.

**Paramount (F.W.C.) (2,450; 35-75)**—'Guadalupian Diary' (1,475; 35-75) last time record snail's last week \$23,000.

**Golden Gate (F.W.C.) (1,475; 35-75)**—'In Old Chicago' (20th) and 'Bango' (RKO) (1,475; 35-75) \$15,000. Last week, 'Princess O'Rourke' (WB) (1,475; 35-75) \$15,000.

**Under Two Flags' (20th) (reissue)** plus stage 'Show Girl' review. Excellent \$10,000. Last week, 'Unknown Guest' (MGM) plus Rev. Bulkin's 'The Zombies' (MGM) (1,475; 35-75) stage, big \$23,000.

**Golden Gate (RKO) (1,240; 35-75)** and 'Bob Chester's orch' (2d wk) (1,240; 35-75) \$12,000. Last week, 'Hollywood Code' (RKO) (1,240; 35-75) \$12,000.

**Orpheum (Blumfeld) (2,400; 60-75)**—'The Man' (U) (1,240; 35-75) \$10,000. Last week, 'Mr. Smith' (U) (1,240; 35-75) \$10,000. Last week, 'The Man' (U) (1,240; 35-75) \$10,000.

**United Artists (Blumfeld) (2,400; 60-75)**—'The Man' (U) (1,240; 35-75) \$10,000. Last week, 'The Man' (U) (1,240; 35-75) \$10,000.

**Whistling 'Dunneym' (2d) in D. C.**  
 'Diary' (WB) (1,447; 35-75) \$22,000. Last week strong \$23,000.

**Golden Gate (RKO) (1,240; 35-75)**—'Maor-Vaude' (RKO) (1,240; 35-75) \$32,500. Last week strong \$23,000.

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## Key City Grosses

**Estimated Total Gross**  
 This Week ..... \$261,400  
 Last Week ..... \$261,400  
 (Based on 26 cities, 187 theatres)

**Top Gross Same Week**  
 Last Year ..... \$1,199,700  
 (Based on 26 cities, 187 theatres)

## 'Corvette' Fast 14G in Balto

Full list of the week's box office. 'Corvette' (WB) (1,447; 35-75) \$22,000. Last week strong \$23,000.

**Golden Gate (RKO) (1,240; 35-75)**—'Maor-Vaude' (RKO) (1,240; 35-75) \$32,500. Last week strong \$23,000.

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(M-G), after week at Orpheum. Good \$3,500. Last week, 'Lady Takes Chance' (RKO) and 'Falcon' (RKO) moveovers, nice \$4,500.

**Denham (Cockfield) (1,750; 35-60)**—'True to Life' (Par) (2d wk). Okay last week, good \$4,500.

**Denver (Fox) (2,225; 35-60)**—'The Pursuit' (WB) (1,750; 35-60) \$1,000. Last week, 'The Pursuit' (WB) (1,750; 35-60) \$1,000.

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# L. A. Slips But 'Old Oak' masheroot \$41,500, 2 Spots: 'Whistling' 39G, Four, 'Top Man 32 1/2 G, Courage N.G. 27 1/2 G

Los Angeles, Dec. 7.—This week with some \$41,500 at two Paramount theatres, and three-week campaign pit on by Republic which is paying off solidly at Vickers.

**Paramount (F.W.C.) (2,450; 35-75)**—'Maor-Vaude' (RKO) (1,240; 35-75) \$32,500. Last week strong \$23,000.

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# 500,000 PEOPLE C CITY-WIDE PREMIE

**THE GREATEST AUDIENCE ON  
RECORD FOR NEW YORK'S  
BIGGEST NEW YEAR'S EVE  
THEATRE PARTY! . . .**

**THE**

FIFTY RKO houses throughout the Metropolitan area playing from dark to dawn of New Year's Eve only, at \$1.10 minimum . . . as 1944's most sensational attraction is launched in the thrilling manner you've come to expect from "The Showmanship Company"! . . . Additional spectacular openings set in cities Coast to Coast! . . .



# CELEBRATING GALA RE OF *SINATRA SHOW*

Michele  
**MORGAN**

Jack  
**HALEY**

Frank  
**SINATRA**

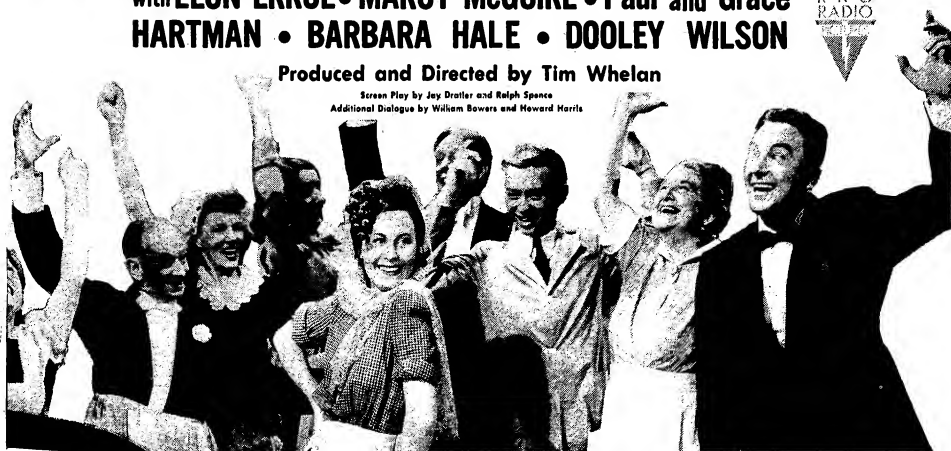
## *Higher and Higher*

with **LEON ERROL • MARCY McGUIRE • Paul and Grace  
HARTMAN • BARBARA HALE • DOOLEY WILSON**



Produced and Directed by **Tim Whelan**

Screen Play by Jay Droller and Ralph Spence  
Additional Dialogue by William Bowers and Howard Harris



## **HAPPY HOLIDAYS, SHOWMEN OF AMERICA!**



## Illness Halts Film Racket Trial— Union Exec Admits Hiring Lepke

Illness of John Roselli and Paul De Lucia, two of the remaining defendants in the multimillion-dollar film shakedown trial, a brief recess of the trial after a preliminary hearing yesterday. After hearing two witnesses called by the defense in behalf of defendant Louis Kaufman, Judge Bright adjourned the trial until today (Wed.). Other defendants on trial before Judge Bright and the jury are: criminal branch of U. S. district court, Frank Marfotte and Philip D'Amore, all Chicagoans.

Frank Phelps, labor relations consultant for Warner Bros., was called by the defense as counsel for Kaufman to refute testimony previously given by Willie Bloff concerning the Phelps testimony that he had never complained to Bloff of having trouble with Kaufman and in fact denied every part of Bloff's testimony concerning him and Kaufman in labor relations dealings. He did state that Bloff "knew" him while the Coast and asked him to try and get together with Kaufman on the new contract for producers.

**Q. And what did you do in regard to this?**

**A. Brushed him off.**

**Q. Did Kaufman ever threaten to strike while new contract negotiations were pending—or, at any other time?**

**A. Did Kaufman ever ask for any money?**

**A. No.**

**Q. Was there no cross-examination of this witness by Special Prosecutor John Sherman, former president of Harry S. N. Y. motion picture exhibitors union, was there other witness. He stated he attended the IATSE convention in Louisville, Ky., but had not seen Kaufman in company of Louis Lepke Buchalter while there. This also refuted the testimony given by Bloff.**

**Q. Kosteletzky took over cross-examination of all witness and admitted that Sherman had paid Buchalter \$2,000 to act as his bodyguard at convention. When asked who Sherman stated his life had been threatened. Kosteletzky continued cross-examination.**

**Q. You say your life was threatened?**

**A. Yes.**

**Q. Was there a U. S. attorney by the name of Thomas B. Dewey functioning in New York at that time?**

**A. Yes.**

**Q. Did you go to him when your life was threatened?**

**A. No.**

**Q. Did you go to him in New York or Louisville?**

**A. No.**

**Q. But you did go to Lepke Buchalter as the right man to handle this?**

**A. Yes.**

**Q. It was at this point that Judge Bright had been informed of the illness of Roselli and De Lucia and granted adjournment.**

**Q. Did Kaufman threaten to strike?**

**A. No.**

**Q. Did you go to him when your life was threatened?**

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## Disney's Industrial Pix O.O.s; Huddling in Toledo

Toledo, Dec. 7. Walt Disney, who came here to huddle with Owens-Illinois Glass Co. executives, is reportedly exploring the possibilities of industrial film subjects in the post-war era. Disney, who is working on a new production in turning out government educational subjects to aid the war effort, talked possibilities of animated cartoons with the glass company officials.

Disney, in making a study of industrial film, is checking here regarding films being used for training and entertainment of plant workers.

## Guttmann-20th Set Prod. Deal

Minneapolis, Dec. 7. Following the breakdown of the North Central Allied charge that 20th-Fox took "reparations" against its producers, Guttmann, president of his part in the Twin City independent exhibitors' organization, the time announced the local agreement is ready to make a satisfactory deal with that company for the Harry Dickman theater circuit of which he is general manager.

M. L. Levy, 20th-Fox district manager, had before a production committee to present his side of the controversy. After hearing him, Guttmann, president of his part in the Twin City independent exhibitors' organization, the time announced the local agreement is ready to make a satisfactory deal with that company for the Harry Dickman theater circuit of which he is general manager.

The same North Central Allied charges involving Guttmann were made against M. L. Levy, 20th-Fox district manager, had before a production committee to present his side of the controversy. After hearing him, Guttmann, president of his part in the Twin City independent exhibitors' organization, the time announced the local agreement is ready to make a satisfactory deal with that company for the Harry Dickman theater circuit of which he is general manager.

Following his arrival, Rodgers denied the North Central Allied charge and denounced the body for giving publicity to it before he had an opportunity to give his version. He also took Guttmann to task for the latter's claim that M-G had been "guilty of everything under the sun."

Announcing the charge, North Central Allied threatened to take immediate drastic action if the alleged reparations did not cease.

**Indies Still Balky**

Minneapolis, Dec. 30. Some of the year's best box office grosses have been made by the most Twin City independent neighborhood and suburban spots because of the question to yield to percentage.

Among the pictures on the unofficial "black list" are "Star Line" and "This Is the Army" and "Paramount's" "The Sign of the Cross" which are the biggest grossers in town.

It is usual, however, the majority of the Minneapolis and St. Paul independents, who clamor loudly against the "black list," are the ones who have M-G-M contracts although the deal as usual, includes a number of share-outs.

With a few exceptions, the Twin City independents have "surrendered" to the M-G-M contract, and finally broken down and bought RKO's "Pride of the Yankees." Paramount's "The Sign of the Cross" is the only picture that has not.

pander" but was also directed by Bloff in no uncertain terms to bring the workers in line or else.

For the defense, made most of these admissions under a barrage of questioning by Andrew J. C. Murray, attorney, when testifying on Thursday (3).

Gov't Witness Arrested for Perjury

When the Gov't witness, government witness, was recalled by defense and arrested on suspicion of perjury at Cincinnati on Wednesday's (3) session, the trial.

## Bloff on Auction Block

Hollywood, Dec. 7. The last chapter in the saga of Willie Bloff, "King of the Bids," was written on the auction page of the downtown L. A. driller. Under hammer, the last of the Hollywood Coast possessions including magnificent dining room suit as one of the items which graced his beautiful home.

His valley ranch was sold some time ago.

## Mob Link Forces Chicago Booth Officials to Quit

Chicago, Dec. 7. Months of bitter dissension between the members of the officials of the Chicago Motion Picture Operators Union, Local 110, came to a stormy climax at a specially called meeting last week when all officers were forced to resign.

Previously suspended by Richard F. Walsh, IATSE president, the resigning officers are:

Walsh promised that nominations for new officers would be held the Thursday in January in an election held in February. Meanwhile, the local's affairs are under the control of the resigning officers: IATSE vicepresident and Harry Ragen, who was appointed assistant business agent of the local several months ago when Peter Shyne, president, was forced to relinquish the post; new bylaws were passed preventing officers from holding two offices at the same time.

Under the new rules, resigning officers are eligible for reelection. It is doubtful they'll be given consideration in view of accusations by members that a number of them were under mob rule. In the recent \$5,000 fine, which was levied on it was charged they made questionable deals of all kinds, with the police, and with the mob.

Among the resigning officers are: James Cioce, Joseph Bernstein and George Karg. At first Shyne resigned but when he was assured him that though he couldn't be forced to quit, other steps were being taken to follow the rest with his resignation.

## JOE COOPER MAY NOW EXAM PAR OFFICIALS

Joseph H. Cooper, western theater operator, who has undergone examination in two Paramount suits brought him in, himself now free to conduct an examination of Par officials at a date to be fixed in the near future. The investigation, Colorado corporations; Federal Judge Murray, Hubert signed the order for the examination. The investigation, in which Par seeks to determine the ownership of stock interests in question.

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## N.Y. Theatre Managers Festered With Arrest Power inandalism Drive

## 2d Degree Murder Charge Vs. Mgr. Off Until Jan.

Memphis, Dec. 7. John Eaton, Peabody manager, has been given a continuance until January of his trial on second degree murder charges growing out of the theater explosion which killed Curry, his maintenance man, was killed.

State was scheduled for past week but State moved for shift because two star witnesses are away in important war plant jobs and cannot appear.

Blast of air-conditioning system at Peabody house occurred Aug. 17, killing Curry and injuring an usher. State contends Eaton installed faulty fuse units after being warned against it.

## Trans-Lux Ma Add N.E. Chain

Known to be interested in expanding, the Trans-Lux circuit, presently operating seven theaters here, is reportedly discussing a possible acquisition of theatres controlled by Harold Stoneman, head of the Interstate circuit of New England.

Stoneman has 35 theatres in 25 situations, including the Boston and New Haven circuits. His account is that Trans-Lux is interested in taking over around 15 houses of this large independent chain.

The Interstate circuit operates in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Vermont and New Hampshire. Stoneman, who at one time was associated with S. A. Lynch, former southern circuit operator, whose name was taken over by Paramount when later started in the exhibition field, who later operated in the Boston theatres, is a partner with T-L in the Boston newscircus house which is a part of its small circuit. The others are four in N. Y. and singletons in Philadelphia and Washington.

In addition, Trans-Lux owns a minority interest in Harry Brandt and Dave Weinstock in the Normandie N. Y. circuit.

Though reported to have been talked about, the board of directors of Trans-Lux, which meets once a month, has not yet decided the matter of a deal with Stoneman up on its agenda, according to one of the T-L directors.

Edward Adams, who with Mrs. Stoneman perished in the Coconut Grove, Boston, fire, was a partner in the Interstate circuit with Stoneman.

## Disney Footage for '44 Tops This Year's Record

Hollywood, Dec. 7. Walt Disney studio is winding up the year by moving more than any previous year in its history, and heavy increase slated for 1944. More than 100 million feet of film, including feature and service training pictures, are slated for next year, with probably more as the year goes by.

All the entertainment film work will be made in Technicolor for RKO release.

## U. of Chi (Britannica) Closes for Erpi Films

University of Chicago last week closed deal for the purchase of Erpi Classroom Films, Inc., bringing that school's educational film production. Understood that one of the important factors in the deal was Marshall Field, millionaire publisher, of the governing body of the university.

Erpi Classroom Films was technically sold to Encyclopaedia Britannica, Inc., which is owned by the University of Chicago.

Educational facilities of Chicago University, staff and resources will be made available to the film unit.

## Off With a Bang

Hollywood, Dec. 7. Edmund Hafter, producer of "High Spirits," next Olsen and Johnson picture, is first assignment under the producer contract at Universal.

In the fight to curb vandalism and, particularly, to guard against fires in theatres, several of suspicious origin having occurred lately, the fire department has been given the power to immediately arrest and lock up any person caught with matches.

This power has been granted by the N. Y. License Dept., of which William J. Cullen, chief of the division with exhibitors and theatre managers Friday (3), held at Loew's 52nd Street theatre. He declared that the License Dept. would furnish attorneys in prosecution of any vandals who have been arrested. Firemen are to make frequent and careful inspections of theatres with a new unit to prevent hoodlums but also trying to catch any kids or others smoking in restricted sections of theatres or stuffing cigarettes into vents or other places where damage may be wrought.

On Friday meeting, Moss also cautioned theatres against leaving any rubbish, paper, etc., around theatres. He also tried to catch any kids or others smoking in restricted sections of theatres or stuffing cigarettes into vents or other places where damage may be wrought.

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Also, in connection with warring against vandalism, the city department, the Board of Education and the theatres are trying to break up the habit of kids who are under 16 who are being accompanied by parents or are ditching school in order to go to shows.

Various laws have been passed on a usual strong kid play, are knocking as many as 30 to 40 off the lines at a time, and the point out it is now very difficult to judge the ages of kids and some are probably being refused admission or ejected from theatres who are actually over 16. Most of the kids can't prove how old they are.

No 9 P.M.

An ordinance establishing a curfew law that would chase kids off the streets at 9 p.m. and designed to curb juvenile delinquency fell by the wayside last week when the Board of Aldermen shelved the bill. A public hearing on the merits of the idea was held and the board was unenthusiastic in the person of Fred Weissenberg, owner of a chain of children's theatres in the North and Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois, voiced vigorous opposition to the bill.

Weissenberg said the curfew ordinance would hurt the b.o. activity of the city's theatres and that if the bill is passed, it would hurt the b.o. activity of the city's theatres and that if the bill is passed, it would hurt the b.o. activity of the city's theatres.

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# XAVIER CUGAT



COMPLETED  
**THE HEAT IS ON**  
 WITH MAE WEST (Columbia)

COMPLETED  
**TWO SISTERS AND  
 A SAILOR**  
 M.-G.-M

COMPLETED  
**MR. CO-ED**  
 M.-G.-M

BROADCASTING FOR  
**DUBONNET**  
 EVERY WEDNESDAY EVENING  
 MUTUAL—COAST-TO-COAST

OPENING  
**WALDORF-ASTORIA**  
 DECEMBER 23—11th YEAR

COLUMBIA  
 RECORDINGS

Management  
 M. C. A.



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**Front-page news in  
the nation's press . . .  
featured in America's  
biggest circulation  
magazines . . . Life . . .  
Saturday Evening  
Post . . . Reader's  
Digest . . . Liberty**



**HO!**

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UNIVERSAL  
PICTURE

**NO PICTURE EVER SO TIMELY!  
NO PICTURE EVER SO THRILLING!  
NO PICTURE EVER SO WIDELY PRE-SOLD!  
RELEASED WHILE THE NEWS IS HOTTEST . . . DEC. 31st**

**GUNG HO!**

...battle-cry of the Marine  
Raiders at Makin Island...  
greatest drama of America's  
fighting men in the Pacific!





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found that...

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ADVERTISING"



NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE  
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

STANDARD ACCESSORIES • TRAILERS • SPECIALTY ACCESSORIES





# \$15,000,000 WEB BIL

## NETWORK GROSS TIME SALES

(Estimated)

## FOR OCTOBER

	1943	1942	P.C.
Blue	\$2,481,000	\$1,637,000	+52
Columbia	5,501,000	4,025,000	+36
Mutual	1,408,000	77,000	+85
NBC	10,775,000	4,885,000	+120
Total	\$14,275,000	\$10,399,000	+36

## FOR FIRST 10 MONTHS

	1943	1942	P.C.
Blue	\$21,501,000	\$12,320,000	+74
Columbia	47,025,000	37,140,000	+27
Mutual	10,775,000	77,000	+37
NBC	43,750,000	30,087,000	+21
Total	\$123,051,000	\$80,407,000	+51

## 4 NETWORKS' '43 BIZ SKYROCKETS

On the basis of increased business, which skyrocketed total time billings of the four national networks for the month of October to \$14,275,000, it now appears probable, say industry statisticians, that the webs will wind up 1943 with a combined time sales turnover of a record-shattering \$150,000,000.

The accumulative gross of the networks for the first 10 months of the year already exceeds by an estimated \$8,000,000 the joint tally for the entire year of 1942, when the same webs had a collective gross of \$15,000,000. The joint gross for the previous year, 1941, was \$106,400,000.

The statisticians point to the fact that the webs need only equal in November and December their time billings for the month of October to come through with the \$150,000,000 mark, and on the basis of the month-to-month uptick throughout 1943, it's considered a virtual certainty.

(Continued on page 32)

## 30,000 Small Merchants Sponsor MBS Series in Bid for Post-War Business

Chicago, Dec.

### BARNUM QUILTS OWI; RETURNING TO R.R.

Pete Barnum, domestic radio head of the Office of War Information, has resigned, effective Dec. 15, to return to Rührhauf & Ryan, of which he was formerly radio director. He will be a vice-president of the agency, handling the creation of new programs.

Don Stauffer and S. Heagan Bayles will be the agency's radio department. Both are vice-presidents.

### CBS Revamps Program Dept.

Columbia has realigned the production setup of its program department, increasing executive supervision of actual shows. Five distinct program classifications are involved, with an executive in charge of each.

The five categories are variety, dramatic, music, educational and news. Until a suitable man can be found for the assignment, Douglas Coulter, vice-president in charge of broadcasts, will handle the variety classification personally. Robert J. Landry, director of program writing, heads the dramatic division. James Fassel, music director, has charge of music shows. Lyness Bryson, educational director, handles educational stanzas such as forums and public affairs. Paul White supervises news broadcasts.

Actually, the new setup is aimed to relieve Coulter of considerable detail. There will be more frequent staff meetings, with Davidson Taylor (when he returns from his present overseas assignment for the OWI), William Finchesreiber and Roy Langham participating.

## New Accounts Up Thompson Biz To \$45,000,000

Acquisition of the Ford and Vinnys (Lever Bros.) accounts by Walter Thompson immediately puts the agency ahead of all others in the matter of ra in billing. The two new accounts, in addition to the recently-acquired Owens-Illinois glass business, gives Thompson an estimated \$6,000,000. Heading off last season was Young & Rubicam, with about \$30,000,000 annually.

The Vinnys account was switched last week from B. B. D. & Co., while the Ford business moved over from the Maxson agency. The Vinnys radio activity at the moment is centered in "Mayor of the Town," heard Wednesday nights on CBS, and Lionel Barrymore, but this show will probably be dropped after the Dec. 28 broadcast, in favor of the new Frank Sinatra stand. However, the latter series still hinges on the singer's failure to pass his Army physical scheduled for Saturday (11), and final agreement with American Tobacco releasing him from his exclusive deal with that account. Lever has until Dec. 15 to renew or drop "Mayor of the Town."

## Ex-Sons' Chorine New

### Radio Click As Illness Forces Career Switch

Pittsburgh, Dec. 7. Breaks coming fast for Virginia McCurdy, Pittsburgh girl who had to quit the chorus of "Sons O' Fun" on Broadway last year because of illness. She had been a dancer exclusively, but upon returning home to convalesce, physician told her she'd have to give up dancing permanently on account of a physical condition. So she began to study singing.

Couple of weeks ago Maurice Spillaly heard her and immediately took her on as the featured vocalist with his band at the William Penn hotel's Terrace Room when Elaine Beverly left him to devote all her time to her studies at Duquesne University. Last week Miss McCurdy landed the top vocal spot on a new KDKA commercial for Rolling Rock beer. It's a half-hour variety show, every Saturday afternoon at 5, called "You're Welcome" and features in addition to her Johnny Boyer, m.c., the Four Buddies and the Tunesful Two-ome.

Program will likewise feature the selection of a "movie of the week" by Vincent Johnson, Post-Gazette feature writer and paper's former radio editor. He'll write the 90-second review on his choice, although review will be read by an announcer.

## Koestner Collapses At Union Pac. Rehearsal

Omaha, Dec. 7. Josef Koestner, radio music director, collapsed while conducting the orchestra in rehearsal for the new Union Pacific program on NBC. He was removed to the hospital in critical condition.

## Ken Jones Resigns Y.R. For Durstine Cincy Job

Ken Jones has resigned as an account executive of Young & Rubicam to become manager of the Cincinnati office of the Roy S. Durstine agency. During his association with Y. & R., Jones was for a time in charge of the Detroit office.

## Ford Sponsoring T. Dorsey Band

Tommy Dorsey's orchestra was signed last week by J. Walter Thompson for a five-times-a-week broadcast bankrolled by Ford Motor. Dorsey will ride the 8:15-8:30 period on the Blue network Monday through Friday beginning Jan. 4. It's the leader's first commercial since dropping off the Raleigh account last fall and doesn't hinder his movements. It can be originated anywhere. Dorsey, currently at the Pennsylvania hotel, N. Y., goes into the Paramount theatre, N. Y., Dec. 22, then goes to the Coast for a new film for Metro.

Thompson is now handling the Ford account, having taken over last week from the Maxson agency. It will continue indefinitely the other Ford show, the six-nights-a-week news series on the Blue.

## Your Best Salesman In All Markets—Present and Future

To Be Published Late In December



NEW YORK 19, 154 W. 46th St.

HOLLYWOOD 28, 1708 No. Vine St.

CHICAGO 1, 64 W. Randolph St.

LONDON 8 St. Martin's Pl.

## 'Command Th're' With Colman, Due On NBC in Jan.

"Command Theatre," the new Arch Oboler program, to be sponsored by Colman, who will have Ronald Colman as permanent star, looks set for a January preem on the NBC network. Initial two programs will probably originate from New York, with the remainder of the shows switched to the Coast. Oboler is currently setting the final details. In addition to starting in the dramatic show, for which Oboler will do a weekly original script or adaptation of a classic, Colman will also once the drama is planned, a top-budgeted program, with a femme picture star also guesting each week to play opposite Colman. Rührhauf & Ryan is the agent.

## \$10,000 Audition Cost For Socony-Vacuum All-Star Package Show

Socony-Vacuum assembled spent \$10,000 last week to announce a new program consisting of Orson Welles, Rita Hayworth (Mrs. Wellens), Jimmy Durante and Duke Ellington. Audition was held in N. Y. last Friday evening (13) with Ellington coming in off the road. The program will be a half-hour period on CBS on option into which the program will be made beginning Jan. 13 if it's approved.

## A REPORT TO THE NATION

Gag On Rival 'Fibber' Show Cues Plently Embittered Explanations. Since Report to the Nation moved to its present Thursday night spot on CBS opposite Fibber McGee and Molly it has been going to draw an audience. For that reason, officials of the ability companies sponsoring the series don't think jokes about the rival program are funny.

Consequently, there was a rather shattering silence followed by a flick of frenzied explanations when a picture in the client's booth pulled a gag during last week's broadcast. Incident occurred when one of the sponsor executives asked why "Fibber" was wearing earphones while conducting the music for the show. Before anyone could explain that the "batter" was "thus able to maintain the proper rhythmic balance," the "F" was "reassured," he's listening to "Fibber McGee and Molly."





# ALL-STAR XMAS SHOW

## Baked Beans Nightmare

One of those nightmares the sort of thing every quiz program must do, occurred Sunday night 11:30 on "Take It Or Leave It," on WABC-CBS for Everhart.

It happened when a sailor competitor from the studio audience was attempting to define "baked beans." He got the first three answers correctly and, as the \$16 question, was asked the meaning of the word "noise in naval terminology."

Evil Baker, m.c. of the show, tried to give him a hint by asking what vegetable makes noise (the answer he wanted was celery, when it's chewed). "Is the job guerret-baked beans?" When Baker could make himself heard again he gave the sailor the full \$16 prize and told him to "get-out-of-here." The program was a virtual shambles thereafter.

## Doubt Newsprint Cuts Will Bolster Spot Time Buying

Newspoint cuts sustained by news papers, with apparently more newsprint, should not result in hyped spot sales business for radio and television advertisers, in the opinion of a top advertising agency execs.

Those who hold otherwise maintain that newspapers in various localities will have to curtail the amount of space they can sell to national advertisers and that this will force the companies into buying spot time to supplement their other radio coverage.

Agency topper feels this theory is wrong for the reason that any really comprehensive spot coverage would run up a bill equivalent or surpassing fees paid out for network shows. He said the same time the increase in newsprint resulting therefrom, if any, would be relatively difficult to ascertain. This, he points out, holds truer as the company is more national in scope.

Exec who said an experiment conducted by his agency a year or two ago in four cities to test the business-getting effectiveness of network and spot coverage yielded results which were inconclusive. He said that the company in those interested in the experiment was made could not effectively determine just whether there was any margin business. He said he was not sure whether it was due to the spot coverage given the four cities in question.

The experiment convinced him the agency execs said, that national advertisers will have to get along with whatever newspaper and magazine space they can get, plus network coverage. He reasons that few printed mediums are better than radio at all because, he maintains, auditory and visual advertising are natural allies, and advertising effectiveness for most products depends on the use of both rather than just either one alone.

## ALL-STAR CAST FOR ELGIN XMAS SHOW

Chicago, Dec. 7.

Cast of the two-hour Elgin Watch Co. Christmas show has been set, with probably one of the biggest lineup of names ever to be used on a commercial show. On the show are: Robert Young, Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Lena Horne, Judy Garland, Carmen Miranda, the Charleys, 1,000-voice army chorus and Lou Siveria, orchestra.

Unlike the Thanksgiving show, there will be no cut-ins from other programs, with the program coming direct from Hollywood. J. Walter Thompson is handling the show for Elgin.

## R. E. Nelson Resigns WOR Post; Joins Storm Agency

Raymond Everett Nelson, since last April director of daytime programs and late supervisor at WOR, has joined the agency staff of Charles M. Storm in N. Y., as radio director. "The Rubber" succeeded Nelson, WOR.

## 4-Day Lapse on CBS 'Suspense' Show Repeat For Coast Listeners

Hollywood, Dec. 7.

Network time problem has reached such a pass that *Bomb Wines' "Suspense"* series on CBS airs for the first time on Thursday night and set back on the web for a Coast repeat until the following Monday. Show goes east at 5 p.m.

Spiller produces under supervision of Kunt, coast head of the B.W. agency. Live repeats, that far apart are novelties in Hollywood, but fact that they are occurring many years ago with "One Man's Family."

## BENDIX 'REILLY' SHOW FOR BLUE; OTHER BIZ

Chicago, Dec. 7.

of Reilly's comedy-drama starring William Bendix, will air on the Blue Network after the first of year. Sponsor is the American Medical Association.

Reliance Manufacturing Co. will sponsor the Doc Hopkins program on the Blue Network, Dec. 26. Show will be aired Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 6:30 a.m.

"Music for one" featuring letters to the Blue, will be aired Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 12:45-1 p.m. (CWT) over WMQA. Show is sponsored by Eight-In-One disc tables through H. W. Kantor. Program will replace *Eddie and Pandor* on the Blue.

"Hello, Sweetheart! 15-minute program featuring Nancy Martin, hits the air via the Blue Saturday 11:30 at 4:45 p.m. (CWT). Show is sponsored by Grant Latham-Turner, Inc.

## Stewart Takes Option On 'Barnaby Riker'

Radio rights to "Barnaby Riker," the "Crockett Johnson" satirical fantasy comic strip, have been purchased by Stewart. Peter Low is writing the adaptation and Lincol Shuster is adapting the script. Plans for a stage version of the cartoon series have shifted, says Stewart, who is preparing for a dramatization after the cartoon edition.

annuity, syndicated by Field Publications, appears in New York in the newspaper PM. Since its start more than a year ago, it has received unusual praise, and was recently published in book form.

## Carney Pacted to 7-Yr. Exclusive CBS Deal

An Carney, actor, has been signed by CBS to a seven-year exclusive contract. The network recently signed Carney, who has been a seven-year exclusive deal providing for "use on any medium show." He may not appear in a commercial on any other network and may not accept stage or film engagements without the network's approval.

## REAP HARVEST VIA PIONEER LISTINGS

Chicago, Dec. 7.

Scores of business-hungry stations all over the country have played into the hands of one of the most virulent Blue-network survey markets that radio has produced to date. Fees running into thousands of dollars have been paid several survey firms under circumstances that would do credit to "Yellow Kid" well, in his pinched days.

Unusual twist is that while the survey invariably puts the cutter pot staked either side of a close second in listener rating which the station knows is a lie—they love it. They handle the statistics off to their station reps, who in turn peddle it to the big agencies. Later in many cases buy into the strength of the pious survey.

First question in the select for the survey company is to get a list of station that is either last or next-to-last in the entire radio market. It is not for any business that it can get. Letter usually intimates that they (the survey) companies are making a checkup for a national ad agency which is building a program for a client.

First query usually asks for the small station's program schedule and for any other information that the station can give them that will help (Continued on page 32)

## Dunninger Goes Comm'l Jan. 5

Kern-Tone, auto product manufacturer by a combine dominated by Sherwin-Williams will sponsor Dunninger, the minstrel, via the Blue, effective Jan. 5, Wednesday 9-10 p.m. The show, packaged by the Blue, was sold for \$3,000 exclusive of time costs which total approximately \$5,000 for the full net (162 stations).

Dunninger, vaude and nifty yet, will hit his air on Saturday, Sept. 12, and was heard until recently Sunday, at 4:30 p.m. with a repeat by WJZ, N. Y., at 6:30 p.m. Newell Emmett is the agency.

"Schweikher Into Army" Fred Schweikher, production head at WRC, Washington, went up his job and reported for Army induction yesterday 461.

## Sponsored Shows Giving Air Forums Kicking Around: Norman Thomas

Premieres (Dec. 8-19)

Dec. 8

"Easy Aces," with Jane and Goodman Ace, 7:30-8 p.m. Wednesday; WABC-CBS; Ann-CO. Ticket-sump-Thim- agency (sampled from last week).

"Mrs. Miniver," serialization of Mrs. Sturges' novel; 11:30-12 midnight, Friday; WABC-CBS; sustaining.

Dec. 13

"Education for Freedom," educators and writers' forum; 10:15-10:30 p.m. Monday; WOR-MBS; sustaining.

## More Blue Time On Chain Breaks For Spot Sales

Blue network affiliates go to a 30-second chain break Dec. 15, giving local stations an additional 10 seconds for spot sales. The week is also dropping point of origination at the 20-second timing. Network programs on the Blue will be signed off at 30 seconds before the window of the present 20 seconds.

The Blue's Coast chain has been giving its affiliates a full minute for local spot sales between sustainers.

## WOR CH SALES BEST YET; 118% OVER '42

Chicago, Dec. 7.

R. C. Maddox, vice president of WOR New York, here for a look-over at the Chicago office, announced last week that the first eight months of bills for 1943 by the Chi office topped the best year the station has ever done here. Sales were 118% over 1942 with 51% of being new business.

Bob Woods, in charge of the Chicago office, in his 1-A and expects to enter the Army after the first of the year.

Sponsored radio, particularly as it affects forum programs and freedom of speech, was vigorously attacked by Norman Thomas in a broadcast Sunday night 11:30 on WQXR, New York. The personal Socialist candidate for the presidency criticized the way forum programs are "kicked around" and objected to the way news is slanted by selection. He also recommended the way advertising expenditures are exempted from taxation. The broadcast was one of a regular series Thomas is making on the New York radio outlet.

According to the Socialist spokesman, much of present advertising has nothing to do with selling goods, but with only good will or propaganda "labels" for the "American people." He suggested that advertisers exhaust the public to save money, buy bonds and shorten the war. He also suggested that advertisers exhaust the public to save money, buy bonds and shorten the war. He also suggested that advertisers exhaust the public to save money, buy bonds and shorten the war. He also suggested that advertisers exhaust the public to save money, buy bonds and shorten the war.

Wants "Reasonable Ceiling" on advertising should be abolished. Some of it has definite social utility, and more of it has, he said, no place or value. (Continued on page 32)

## Solve Wrigley Script Problem

With the current scarcity of good radio scripts presenting a real problem for the industry, the Arthur Meyerhoff agency, which handles American Women for Wrigley, has just put out the hat. Last week that probably will furnish them with plenty of scripts for months to come.

With the primary function of the script being to get the women out of the home and into war work, the Meyerhoff agency, in conjunction with the Wrigley Co., has selected chiefs of more than 200 war industries to sit in on a typical broadcast of the program. The chiefs of women in war work for the show, as well as sitting on the technical angles of the various broadcasts that deal with their particular industry.

Script which has been on the air several months, brings out a complete script for each 15-minute period. The script is a week of writing over 100 scripts in almost as many days last week, and Mr. Frank Hunsley, Wrigley's ad exec, lauded it on the spot.

Phil Cohen, prod. of the OWI radio division and a representative of the War Manpower Commission, was at the session to make a quick perusal of the propaganda angle of the script.

## LINE UP SELECTIONS ON PEABODY AWARDS

Washington, Dec. 7.

Selections will have through the stations for the 1943 George Foster Peabody awards by F. B. Ives, NAB, member of the executive committee. Dec. 29 to Dec. 30, John F. Dreyer, executive director of the National Association of Broadcasters, will be the information will be consolidated in a book, "The Peabody Awards," which will be published by the National Association of Broadcasters. Board members in New York will be asked to study the recommendations. Listening post groups operating in more than 200 cities and the most state universities with accredited schools of journalism.

## THE MAN AND VIOLIN KNOWN TO MILLIONS

It is the story of the famous Stradivarius violin heard and seen by millions of people throughout the world. The violin, which was made by Antonio Stradivari, is now in the hands of the National Museum in Washington, D.C. The violin is one of the most famous instruments in the world, and its story is a fascinating one. The violin was made in 1715, and it is now over 200 years old. It has been played by some of the greatest violinists in the world, and it has been the subject of many books and films. The violin is now on display at the National Museum, and it is a great honor to have it in the hands of the nation.

Exclusive Radio Representatives  
W. & S. LYONS, Inc.  
Union Avenue, New York.

## OWI Shortwave Radio Beams Historic Teheran Confab in 26 Languages

OWI's overseas branch swung into 15-minute program, was repeated action Monday (6) to spread the word, and a total of 330 broadcasts was message of the Roosevelt-Churchill tabulated. The Far East and Pacific Basin meeting at Teheran to all territories were covered by a 40-parts of the globe via shortwave program barage from the West broadcasts. The story was beamed coast, cable and wireless dispatches over 20 Atlantic coast transmitters also were transmitted by the OWI in 26 languages and dialects, all through.

Relays were set up in London, Kansas City—Ken Jones is the Algiers, Tunis, Rabat, aplek, latest addition to the mike staff at Palermo and Bari. For 24 hours the KCKN.

## 'Silver Theatre' to N. Y. For Dec. 19 'Lady' Repeat

'Silver Theatre' dramatic Sunday on WABC-CBS for International Silver, will originate in New York for the first time Dec. 19 when John Nesbitt will star in an office of his own adaptation of Anatole France's 'The Juggler of Our Lady'.

Harry Ackerman, Young & Rubicam radio production head, will direct the show. He did it several times in the past when it was presented on 'Screen Guild Theatre' for Gulf Oil.

## From the Production Centres

### IN NEW YORK CITY . . .

Everett Slesinger reclassified I-A. . . Kirby Flowers directing 'Family Hour' during Bill Rousseau's illness. And Joe Ferrer has succeeded Dennis Taylor as m.c. . . Radio Broadcast Guild holds a membership meeting Monday night (8) at the Gladstone hotel. . . Tom Harrington, Young & Rubicam radio head, to Coast for confabs on the new Goodyear show, for which the agency is dickering with Walter Pidgeon. . . Due back east for 'The Great American Beauty Contest' for the Coast for several months. . . Casting: Doris Dalton, Charita Bauer ('Right to Happiness'), Vivian Fiedel ('Deal of Life'). . . Radio Writers' Guild, National Guild and Authors' Guild formed joint committee under Authors League of America banner in deal with television after the war. . . Cyril Ambler, of the Blue Production staff, back at his desk after a flu. . . Mrs. Viola Burns, Young & Rubicam assistant director, bedded with pneumonia. . . Ship Fields, because of illness, couldn't keep a date as guest armchair sleuth on 'The Adventures of Elmyra' over NBC Saturday (4). Television were guest sleuths.

John K. Hutchens, radio editor of the N. Y. Times, and Benson Inge, publicity chief of Ted Bates agency, have just completed a play, 'European Man', which treats of fiction's impact on western film life.

Jerry Cooper, singer on WOR's 'Keep Ahead' Tedelbreu-sponsored program, returns from Hollywood, where he completed 'Hot Rhythms' for Monogram, in time for the Dec. 10 program.

Jack Richner, of Radio Reports, authored 'Fun for Sale at a Profit,' an article on commercial religious broadcasting, in the December issue of Magazine Digest. . . Bob Colwell, of the N. Y. Walter Thompson agency, sick this week because of illness. . . Bill Tuttle, of the Rulofraut & Ryan radio dept., bedded with a cold.

Leon Barry, director of the National Theatrical Association, will baton the WQXR orch effective Jan. 1. He replaces Edie Brown, who resigned Sunday (5).

### IN HOLLYWOOD . . .

Vick Knight sufficiently recovered from his illness to work with Amos 'n' Andy as idea stimulator. . . Earl Davis shifting from NBC press department to ditto New York. . . KCKN, radio production head, on his way to Los Angeles.

Hollywood to have its own bona fide program, with 'Coltunene' Clark doing everything but call the square dance. First of that type of show from here was the Beverly Hills radio, dating back to the early days of radio and pre-dating most of the 'originators'. . . Standard Oil of Cal's holiday salute to its 6,000 employees in the armed services.

Frances Langford and Lee Sweetland looking after the musical portions of the hour show. . . Lou Costello, beset by recent series of misfortunes, cheered by his first bit of good luck. . . Dennis Shane, of the new crop of gossipers, now has two local sponsors. . . Milt Samuel's idea planting men pads on the desks of all Blue network department heads is proving so helpful that the home office has shown an interest. It's just as simple as having notes for publicity jotted down for the late afternoon pickup before the day's matter is mince. . . Hedda Hopper's radio interests prospered. . . Jones Charles now on Young & Rubicam production staff on a move from CBS.

. . . Zedra Corda, Cuban film and radio star, invited to participate in the series of radio programs for Jack Rynin's 'Coordinator of Inter-American series' shortwaved to Latin America. . . Al Jarry raising funds for the Children's hospital by conducting radio puns; jarry not. . . Each voice costs like all can gain going to hospital fund.

### IN CHICAGO . . .

Lon Cowan, radio director of OWI overseas division in Chicago, is town last week on a hunt for newspaper and radio people to staff the expanding OWI news bureaus all over the world. . . Jack Ryan, NBC midwest press chief, in Des Moines last week to address the ad club there. . . Lou Harrington, of the Windley restaurant, has a rare collection of Orpingtons. . . Dave King, who announces race results over WIND, in New Orleans on a vacation. . . The 'John Freedom' series aired over the Blue Network since April was discontinued after the Dec. 4 broadcast. . . Don Roberts, CBS western sales chief, out hunting again. Still no town. . . H. E. Westendorp, director of operations for WEEB, Duluth, in town on business. . . Don Marcotte, music supervisor of NBC central division, spent Thanks living with his family in New Hampshire.

### N. Y. AFRA LOCAL

#### ELECTS ADAMS PREXY

William Adams was elected last week president of the New York local of the American Federation of Radio Artists, to serve one year. Other officers chosen were: Alex Kice, first vice-president; Ben Grauer, second vice-president; Jay Jostin, third vice-president; Fred McGee, fourth vice-president; Milton Cross, fifth vice-president; Anne Seymour, recording secretary; Ned Weaver, treasurer.

AFRA signed renewals last week of its contracts with stations WJCA and WJWE, New York, the deal providing for wage increases and extending 18 months. Sound-effects contract with NBC was also renewed for another year and providing wage raises.

### Sanford Back to Ayr;

#### Navy Medical Discharge

Herb Sanford, recently a Lieutenant in the Navy, has been given a medical discharge and has returned to the N. W. Ayer agency as radio production head.

He contracted tropical fe while doing combat intelligence in the South Pacific.

### WBS's Folksy Drama

Atlanta, Dec. 7. 'Folster's Corner,' 20-minute folksy drama about a small town infirmary, is aired Wednesday nights over WBS, local NBC outlet.

It was written and produced by Bob Phillips, the station's production director.

### Jockeys Pact Contract

#### With Disc Cos. in Bid

#### For New Recordings

Disc jockeys on independent stations are going for contracts with transcription companies as means of expanding out programs of their own. . . Three disc firms that have signed AFM recording licenses (Decca, Hill, Capitol) apparently are not turning out enough discs to fill long programs without resorting to old releases, most of which are by now worn thin in more ways than one by constant repetition.

Martin WNEW turntable, last week signed a contract with World and Langworth, adding those to a previous agreement with Sterling and Radio, coast transcriber. Each of these companies has been considerably active since setting up the AFM in recording new material with virtually every band worthwhile.

### Neville Miller Heads

#### Radio's 'March of Dimes'

Evil Miller, president of the National Assn. of Broadcasters, has been appointed chairman of the 'March of Dimes' National Radio Division. It is announced by Basil O'Connor, president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

Serving with Miller as co-chairman are Mark Woods, president of the Blue Network; William S. Paley, CBS presy; Dr. Miller McClellan, president of Mutual, and Miles Trammell, NBC pres.

## IS TELEVISION READY?



I am Alex Eleccion. I know all about Electronics, Electricity, Radio and Television. I'm here now to bring you up-to-date on Television.

### 1. Is Television ready?

Yes: 9 U. S. Television Stations are broadcasting regularly. There are three in New York, including station W2XWV operated by DuMont, one in Schenectady, one in Philadelphia, two in Chicago and two in Hartford. Wartime manufacturing restrictions retard Television's expansion today.

### 2. What will new Television Receivers go on sale?

New Television sets probably will be available within 6 months after peace in Europe. Many Television sets are in use today. Major pre-war distribution was by five manufacturers, one of which was DuMont.

### 3. What will be the sizes of Television pictures?

Depending on the size of the Receiver, from about 8" x 10" up to approximately 20" x 24".

### 4. What will be the sizes of Television Receivers?

Virtually the same as radio receivers—from the size of larger portables to 'side-screen de luxe console models.

### 5. What will Television Receivers probably cost?

The first models of Television Sight-and-Sound Receivers probably will range from \$200 to \$700.

### 6. How far can Television programs be broadcast?

Today, the best reception is within 60 miles of the station. Engineers hope, by using improved equipment, to have Television networks over the world.

### 7. Will Television carry news, sporting events and motion pictures into your home?

Yes: Television can carry any scene that cameras can record, whether it be from the studio or from the field.

### 8. How perfect will Television pictures be?

Now, Television is as good as 16 mm. motion pictures, after the war it may equal electric motion pictures.

### 9. Who invented Television?

Many engineers have made valuable contributions. It was Allen B. DuMont who brought from a laboratory conception to commercial reality the heart of the modern Television Receiver—the Cathode Ray Tube.

### 10. What part will DuMont play in post-war Television?

DuMont's Television activities will fall in three divisions: the manufacture of fine Television Radio Receivers; the operation of its own commercial Television Stations; and the manufacture of Precision Electronic Equipment for Television pick-ups and transmitting stations. 30 of the Television Stations now regularly on the air are DuMont equipped.

Precision Electronics **DU MONT** and Television

Allen B. DuMont Laboratories, Inc. General Offices and Main Plant, 2 Main Avenue, Passaic, N. J. Television Broadcasting Studios and Station W2XWV, 315 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y.

## Dunder 'n' Blitzen Blitzed

Lynchburg, Dec. 7.

WVLA's annual Christmas party, a one-day community event supplying food to thousands in recent years, is threatened with extinction as a result of an OPA ruling.

In order to fill baskets with rationed foods, station will have to "buy" 30,000 points from OPA on promise to pay back by collecting points from persons who receive baskets. Entire idea is too colossal for station's staff as it stands.

Chief headache will be likelihood of beneficiaries not having sufficient points left by Christmas to cover "cost" of basket. Also, station thinks it would be unfair to require handover of five-pound coupon for the one-pound point of rationing included in a basket. On other hand, the station doesn't want to attempt to supply baskets either without sugar or with the full five-pound quota.

Listing of rationing agencies which supply names of basket receivers has been called to see if plan can be worked out to give baskets without the point payback.

## Experiment On Documentary Radio Shows

The cutting and splicing technique in everyday use for the assembling of newsreels is currently the subject of "experimentation and limited application in the production of documentary feature discs for radio broadcasting. The idea, which involves the recording of events for several or even six hours to get 15 to 30 minutes' worth of acceptable material, is receiving an extended tryout by WMCA, N. Y.

That station has been sending out a mobile unit, since Monday, to be manned by an engineer and an announcer to pick up material out of which a number of documentary shows may be fashioned, depending upon the quality of the material. The initial experiment actually took place last Wednesday (1) when the unit recorded the docking of the refugee ship Grapsholm and included interviews with its passengers who had been Jap prisoners since the early days of the war. Several hours of narration and interviews were taken down, but when the discs were brought back to the station, they were redubbed on two platters. Highlights were selected, and the less desirable material eliminated. The splices were generally smooth, so that the jumps were scarcely noticeable.

The station is planning a feature on the Stuyvesant-Belford section of Brooklyn, the subject of two Grand Jury blasts which charged the city administration with lax crime enforcement. The shooting script provides for a statement by the Grand Jury foreman, Police Commissioner Valentine's reply, a statement by Mayor La Guardia, and the complaints of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Doakes.

### First Tried In 1937

The application of the newsreel method to radio was first tried in 1937 when KMTB, Hollywood, arranged an exchange program deal with stations throughout the country. It was handled by Radio Newsreel, Inc., a subsidiary of KMTB and provided for the swapping of news discs, which were pieced together each station to make a complete show. This lasted for six months. In 1940 BBC took over the title "Radio Newsreel" and the idea, and has been operating such show ever since. While BBC's is a compendium of several independent shows, WMCA plans to piece together its "Newsreel" from a number of discs offering different phases of one topic. The station has, for the time being, ear-marked \$1,000 for several week's experiments.

## Radio Writers Guild Pacts NBC on DXers; Raises Pay Minimums

Radio Writers Guild signed a contract last week with NBC, covering news writers in its stock exchange department. Latter are under Office of War Information orders for the duration, but are paid according to NBC rates. The new wage levels, involving raises in all classifications, are subject to War Labor board approval.

In general, the new pact calls for minimums of \$2,000 a year for junior writers and \$3,000 for seniors. The Guild considers these figures unsatisfactory, but better than the previous rates and at least comparable to those in effect at the OWI overseas office. About 30 men are covered by the new contract.

## Folsom Named RCA V.P.

Frank M. Folsom, former chief of the Procurement Branch, Navy Dept., was named as v.p. and director of RCA, and will head RCA-Victor Division. He takes over his new position Jan. 1.

Folsom replaces George K. Throckmorton, who is resigning due to ill health.

## Esty Angling for Web Spot to Unearth New Durante-Moore Combo

The William Esty agency, which already has Abbott & Costello, Durante & Moore, Thanks to the Yanks, "Blondie" and "Grand Ole Opry" on the air for Reynolds Tobacco Co., is interested in still more programming for the same sponsors if good network line can be found. The agency has been quietly looking into the time situation on the networks in recent weeks.

If time is found, it's likely Esty would propose some kind of comedy package. Agency leans to comedy, as against variety or all-musical shows. Nor is it discouraged by fact that most good comedy talent is already working. Esty execs feel they may be able to pull another rabbit out of the hat as was done by teaming Jimmy Durante with Garry Moore. What concerns agency most is lack of good writing talent. It's harder to find than the thespian talent, say the Esty toppers.

## Trammell Sees Post-War Radio Strides Shackled Under Gov't Control In Testifying Before Senate Group

Washington, Dec. 7. NBC presy Niles Trammell dipped into American history before the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee hearing today (7), and, paraphrasing Lincoln, said "radio cannot remain half slave and half free." Citing tremendous sums running into millions ready to be poured into radio and its tele and FM fields in the immediate postwar period, Trammell declared the industry must be freed from four of Government control if it is to take advantage of this potential investment. "The radio legislation which you write," Trammell instructed Congress, "must be such as to guarantee freedom of opportunity and operation of these services—especially freedom from Government domination and control. Only free,

enterprise can obtain from these achievements the largest dividend in public service."

Indicating the importance, which NBC is viewing television Trammell described it as the "biggest challenge to the industry" during the scheduled revolution in broadcasting immediately after the war. He predicted that, in time, the radio industry would have to scrap its entire plant, covering millions in capital investments, and rebuild from the ground up. He foresees the erection of hundreds of new stations, establishment of new networks and the stringing of thousands of miles of additional telephone wires and coaxial cables to carry programs throughout the nation.

"All this," said the NBC chief, (Continued on page 31)



## One Part Hollywood—One Part New York — Mix Well in Chicago

OUT in a California training camp, a couple of thousand soldiers are howling their heads off at a gag... the band plays a short fanfare... applause... the announcer comes in with his commercial.

A neat, smooth operation—yet the comedian and announcer are 3,000 miles apart, and probably have never met each other. They're "mixed" in a studio in Chicago.

When there's to be a pick-up from any out-of-the-studio spot, NBC sends equipment and engineers to the scene two or three days ahead of time. They set up a circuit between that pick-up point and the "mixing" center. If the announcements on the program are to come from New York, they will go over a special NBC circuit direct to the same "mixing" point.

The mixing engineer gets his cues and his timing by telegraph. Then he sits down before an NBC mixer—and with a flick of the wrist performs the miracle of blending together a comedian on the coast with an announcer from the east—so subtly that it sounds as if they were both sitting in the same room!

NBC engineers helped develop this miraculous mixer—which automatically fades out a voice from one source and fades in a voice from another source.

Perfecting devices and operations such as this, working out every new means for making broadcasting more effective, increasing the scope and richness of radio through every resource at its disposal—these are some of the things that make NBC "The Network Most People Listen to Most."



## —The National Broadcasting Company

America's No. 1 Network—A SERVICE OF RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA





## Butcher Not NAB Candidate

The proposal to recruit Commander Harry C. Butcher, naval aide to Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, and former CBS v.p. in charge of the network's Washington office, as a possible successor to Neville Miller to head the National Assn. of Broadcasters, brought forth a V-mail report last week from Butcher that as far as I'm concerned one war's enough.

Thus Butcher automatically cancelled himself out of the picture as a possible candidate for the NAB job. A large segment within NAB's membership had sought to draft him on the basis that the broadcaster need a man with practical industry experience at the helm to prevent the association from "nerveloping into nothing more than service club." Butcher left the CBS post to accept a lieutenant-commandership in the Navy in June, 1942, and was advanced to full commander in May of this year.

## Inside Stuff—Radio

Capt. Meredith Willson batted a 'Command Performance' broadcast (made for transcriptions) at the NBC studios in New York last week, which Fred Allen emceed and which held Ginny Simm, Gypsy Rose Lee, Benny Goodman (solo, tri- and full band), Golden Gate Quartet and Lauritz Melchior. It ran overboard, but cutting will take care of the inaccurate running time, which is a must for two reasons. One is that ABC broadcasts many of these 'CP' disks, hence a strict half-hour must be maintained, and secondly, the censorial conditions are tough.

For Goodman, the Hotel New Yorker did a nice gesture in defraying the cost of the substitute band to permit its maestro to work at the NBC studios for the 'CP' during the Wednesday dinner hour. Capt. Willson, Major Mann Holmer, Sgt. George Rosenberg (ex-Hollywood agent), et al., return to the Coast this weekend.

H. V. Kaltenborn, president of the Assn. of News Analysts, recently engaged in a dispute with Fulton Lewis, Jr., over the organization's purposes and function. The NBC commentator corrected Lewis after the latter had criticized the association on the ground that a profession should not be 'unionized' and that the organization would tend to limit free speech. When Kaltenborn explained that the ANA is merely a social and professional group, Lewis admitted his criticism had been unjustified. Later, when the question of the possible admission of the Mutual broadcaster to the ANA arose unofficially, various members of the organization expressed themselves fervently against it. Idea was immediately dropped and Lewis failed to apply for membership.

The Free World Theatre series of dramatizations heard over the air last season is being brought out in book form next month by Random House. Tome, containing 19 of the scripts, will also carry an introduction by Thomas Mann.

Through an arrangement with the Radio and Screen Writers' guilds, the radio plays also being played at the disposal of the War Dept.'s Special Services Division for presentation among men in the service.

Two new handbooks supplementing NBC's two Inter-American University of the Air programs have just come off the presses. New publications are 'Folkways in Music,' volume 3 in the 'Music of the New World' series, and 'The Americas and the World,' fourth in a series entitled 'Lands of the Free.'

## Richard Stark Drops Daytime Gabbings Jobs

Richard Stark, Ivory Soap radio spicer for the past five years, is giving up announcing duties effective Dec. 31, when his present contract expires. On the Right to Happiness (NBC) and Life Can Be Beautiful (CBS) daytime serials. Reason advanced in resignation letter to the Comp-on agency was that Stark is abandoning daytime activities because they interfere with conduct of his own outfit, G-S Radio Productions.

Gabbert's decision to leave the daytime shows will not affect his chores on 'Able's Irish Rose' and other night programs.

## Agcy. Execs Lay Upped Radio Biz to Speedy Comm'l Plug Changes

Chicago, Dec. 7. One of the principal reasons for the tremendous amount of new business that radio is putting on the air month by month is the flexibility of the medium in terms of commercials, according to advertising agency executives here.

With the prospect of an early settlement of the war in Europe, even though the war in the far east may go on for some time, many sponsors feel that a good percentage of American business will return to a peace time basis with the overthrow of Hitler.

Changing on ad campaign in newspapers and magazines is a long slow job entailing changeover in plates, engravings and copy, whereas commercial plugs on the air can be changed overnight.

WHRG, St. Nick

Memphis, Dec. 7.

WHRG is arranging for a series of 'in person' broadcasts by Santa Claus at local orphanages on approaching Saturdays afternoons. Saint Nick will do programs from each institution at 4:45 matinee spot.

## FDR Refusal to Transfer Control Of RID Bared at FCC Probe Hearing

### Spending Guest Star

Case of a guest on a radio program sponsoring the program's sponsor within 15 minutes after going off the air, equipped up last week, when Mark Warnow guested on Dick Gilbert's platter stanza on WHN, N. Y., Thursday (1) afternoon. Following his interview, he watched Gilbert carry on and after the program commenced the dice jockey. He went on to talk about his legit show, 'What's Up,' and one of the WHN salesmen present suggested that he might want to advertise it on the radio. Warnow fell in with the idea and took on sponsorship of a daily 15-minute segment of Gilbert's program.

Interesting sidelight is that Warnow is providing no copy for the program, but is permitting Gilbert to proceed extemporaneously.

## 'Open Door' Switches To CBS Aft. Spot Jan. 3; More 'Marlin' Outlets

The 'Open Door,' daytime serial for Standard Brands, moves from the 10:15 a. m. spot on NBC to 120 CBS stations, Jan. 3, and will be heard Mon.-Fri. from 3:15 to 3:30 p. m. The account is handled by Ted Bates and the switch brings the serial to the follow-up spot after 'Mary Marlin' on CBS, also a Standard Brands show, but handled by J. Walter Thompson.

The eight-year-old 'Marlin' serial, now heard on 35 stations, will be upped to 67 outlets, Jan. 3, and expanded to the full CBS network Feb.

Washington, Dec. 7. The row between FCC and the War and Navy Depts. for control of FCC's Radio Intelligence Division was settled on Sept. 7 by President Roosevelt, who ruled in favor of the Commission, it was disclosed at last week's session of the Liaison Committee investigating FCC.

In their earlier incarnation as the Cox Committee, the Congressional powers turned up the fact that the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson and Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox, requested the switch as far back as last July. Eugene L. Garey, general counsel for the committee, has charged ever since that RID has not done its job properly and should be transferred.

Garey drew considerable support for his stand from FCC Commissioner T. A. M. Craven, who was on the witness stand most of last week before the Committee. Craven, generally regarded as FCC Chairman James L. Fly's severest critic (but not his dearest friend), listed the following bones which he said RID committed:

1. He said the Navy spent considerable time investigating an FCC report of enemy ships at sea in Alaskan waters, only to discover it was a fixed radio station in Japan.

2. The 101 radio monitors and 137 mobile units uncovered a secret station operated by the FBI.

3. RID found several racing bouts broadcasting track results, although there was no military interest in this, and likewise tracked down some boys in Omaha at an amateur sending setup.

Craven did admit, however, that RID uncovered two genuine enemy spy transmitters, one located in San Francisco and the other in New York.

Chicago—Edwin G. Foreman, Jr., has become v.p. in charge of the A.I. Paul Lefson office here.

## "Adams says we just bombed Berlin again..."

Twice each weekday, within the 139 counties of WCCO's primary area, more people tune to *Cedric Adams* than to any other newscaster.

Hooper says that Adams' midday broadcast—from 12:30 to 12:45—has a rating of 17.6.

His last nighttime rating, during his 10 o'clock quarter hour, hit a whopping 25.4.

This is earned popularity. To his regular following of hundreds of thousands of Northwest families, Cedric Adams is an old and reliable friend. Year after year, he delivers straightforward, succinct, "natural" reporting of the news—with a rare and happy overtone of friendliness, warmth, and humor.

In his 13 newscasting years, Adams has never been without a sponsor. He is not available for sponsorship today. But you can put your name on the waiting list, in case.

His success is a good example of WCCO's keen understanding of the listening likes and needs of the people we serve—and of our determination at all times to be *Good Neighbor to the Northwest*. That determination has won a dominant share of Northwest audiences—not only for Cedric Adams, but for dozens of other WCCO programs tailored with equal skill to the special audience—which is the whole of a market for goods and services.

A few of those WCCO-origination have a "for sale" tag on them. They're smart buys. Ask us—or Radio Sales—and we'll tell you more about them.

**WCCO**  
MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL  
50,000 Watts • 830 kc  
COLUMBIA OWNED



*Good Neighbor to the Northwest*

Represented by Radio Sales, the SPOT Broadcasting Division of CBS

# Haley Ascension As BBC Boss Cues New Speculation on Comm'l Setup

London, Nov. With Donald Reed in The Daily Mail dubbing 'broadcasting House,' and taking half a page to expose the huge time government-subsidized monopoly, having celebrated its 21st birthday, would speculate as to what the BBC's new boss, W. J. Haley, will do about it when he gets into his stride.

As former managing editor of the Manchester Guardian, Haley has a reputation as a most capable executive, his late post having included bossship of the business office, as well as the editorial side of the newspaper. It was, in fact, these combined functions which gave rise to rumors of the commercialization of the BBC once he was in the saddle. These rumors, incidentally, are in the face of an official announcement of the impossibility of the corporation's present policy of non-commercial programs being changed until the expiration of its charter in 1926.

In this connection considerable significance attaches to a semi-official pointer given by a source in close touch with the big shots in Broadcasting House.

In discussing 'relative values of commercial broadcasting vs. the BBC monopoly type,' says the source, 'it is worth noting probably no commercial company would ever think it worth their while to cater for such small, but not unimportant, minorities as the BBC does when, for instance, it produces its regular programs in Gaelic. Likewise, it has a Welsh program which would only appeal to certain advertisers. It performs other services which probably no commercial company would ever dream of touching, such as broadcasts to schools, agricultural stations and features which are of great assistance to farmers.'

So far as can be ascertained this is the first time, even semi-officially,

the BBC has ever gone on record with an admission of there being such a thing as 'commercial' broadcasting. Of course, while it is true sponsored programs in America are not broadcast in 'radio or Irish or Welsh ears. And certainly, in Britain as in America, school children and farmers constitute quite important a market as any other groups to whom advertising is addressed.

## Gillette 'Auditions' Boxing Gabbers

Dou Dunphy and Keyes Perrin handled the ring-side assignment at the St. Nicholas arena, N. Y., Monday night 161 when Gillette launched his new series of boxing broadcasts over WHN. Only the main bout of the Mike Nichols-promoted 'Biscuits' was aired, but several other blow-by-blow gabbers were on hand for audition purposes.

Preliminary bouts were described and recorded by the hopefuls who competed on an elimination basis to become Dunphy's assistant and possibly a replacement for him on 'fight' broadcasts from St. Nick's. Stunton is anxious to continue Dunphy's fight programs to the Madison Square Garden and other important bouts he has been running with Bill Curran on the Mutual web.

Among those auditioned Monday night were Joe Ellis, Paterson, N. J.; Jack Tobin, Boston; Ted Lawrence and Perrin, both of the WHN staff. Choice to continue on St. Nick's assignment is expected to be made this week.

## Stapp Quits WSM Post; Goes Overseas for OWI

Nashville, Dec. 7. WSM, Nashville, Jones its program director and a major production executive December 9, when Jack Stapp leaves for the duration to join the overseas radio branch of OWI. He will spend two months in N. Y., before leaving the country.

Stapp, who has been program director at the NBC affiliate for the past five years, is a Nashvillean and although he is only 30 years old is a veteran radio executive.

## Rating Racket

Continued from page 27

them to determine whether the particular station fits into the picture. Nine are out of ten the small station writes back with the desired information. At the same time, asking who the client or agency, also whether they can get a copy of the survey which it is completed. The survey is all that the survey company has been angling for—and they proceed to pour it out.

They are very sorry. They cannot reveal the name of their clients, either agency or sponsor, but possibly they have a solution to the station's problem. If the station wants to become a participant in the survey they must be able to handle this without compromising the client. Of course, they have to obtain the permission of the client.

Fees From \$100 to \$3,000

In almost every case the station rises to the bait and ends up by paying anywhere from \$100 to \$3,000 for the privilege of participating in the survey. Actually the station is the only client the survey company has from first to last.

Study of scores of worksheets of the companies show that while the station in every case was charged all that the traffic would bear, the expenses in all cases were approximately the same.

Typical worksheet showed an expense of \$3.50 for sample mailings, item of \$125 for an ad in the town paper soliciting housewives to make the telephone survey; salaries for the two or three housewives for making the calls, \$15 (they invariably have unlimited phone privileges); small lowest cost of printing folders for survey; \$1, and express charges to deliver the survey to the client, \$1.25.

Usually \$25 covers the nut which, with fees running into hundreds of dollars, gives the survey companies a fabulous profit. Usually the partner who sells the account assembles the figures which, not being accurate, aren't much of a chore any way.

## Web Billings

Continued from page 25

that the all-time high figure will be achieved. Previous estimates had pointed to an accumulative level of between \$10,000,000 and \$15,000,000. The joint time sales tally for the 10 months ending Oct. 30, 1942, was \$12,551,000, representing a marginal advance of 31% over the \$9,547,000 chalked up by the webs for the parallel period of 1942. Reflecting the month-to-month percentage up-beat in comparison to last year's business, the accumulative margin was advanced from 22% in June. By July it reached 25%; and in September went up to 30%.

Tabulation of the October billings gave a total of \$5,501,000 for Columbia, representing a 36% increase over \$4,085,000 for NBC, a 26% increase; \$2,481,000 for the Blue, a boost of 52%, and \$1,408,000 for Mutual, which an increase of 84%. Columbia's estimated \$4,023,000 for the 10-month period leads the foursome in total billings and represents nearly \$10,000,000 advance over the net's 42 months sales for a margin of 27%. NBC's \$4,753,000 over the same period is up 21% over the Blue, \$2,501,000, which is 74% ahead of last year, and Mutual, \$1,753,000, for an increase of 37%.

# U.S. Subsidy on Bond Drive Adv. Ignoring Radio As Media Assailed

Washington, Dec. 7. Bankrolled bill, involving \$15,000,000 subsidy to small newspapers in the form of Treasury Dept. bond advertising, was attacked Friday (3) by both Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau and the War Advertising Council, on the ground that it will hinder the sale of War Bonds.

Bill has passed the Senate, and

## Norman Thomas

Continued from page 27

present economic order. I am suggesting that a reasonable ceiling be put upon advertising. If great corporations directly or indirectly want to propagandize us concerning the glories of 'free enterprise,' let them pay for it out of their own profits, which, Heaven knows, are large enough.

One social consequence of greed for this flood of advertising is to be seen in what is happening to the public radio forums like the University of Chicago 'Round Table' and the Town Meeting of the Air. Every one of them, with possibly one exception, will be forced to take a commercial sponsor or be kicked around in respect to time so that their usefulness will be greatly minimized if not destroyed. I speak from personal knowledge when I say that those responsible for forums believe that to maintain them on a public basis should be part of the price radio stations and networks owe the public for the invaluable service of the use of one of a limited number of airways.

Subsidy, if not crassly, formed which are sponsored will be subject to influences and pressures inconsistent with the best discussion of public issues. The public itself will be suspicious, perhaps unreasonably so. Imagine how you would feel if you should hear a discussion on private insurance by courtesy of the University of Chicago and the Mammoth Insurance Company, or on price control by courtesy of the Town Hall Meeting of the Air and the Monster Milk Company.

There can be no doubt that our American system of broadcasting is vastly superior to the governmental monopoly of radio in European countries, where radio is a major instrumentally of potential or actual dictatorship. I think our system is better than the British broadcast system under a public authority, which would probably be made worse, not better, in an American case. I myself have reason to know and appreciate the fact that broadcasting in America is free from government censorship, except on military matters, and in a great number of cases free from private censorship. Nevertheless, there are serious problems. One of them concerns the use of forms, to which I have referred. Another has to do with the right of labor and cooperative organizations to buy time for the most serious is the treatment of radio.

San Antonio—More of the distaff side are taking over control room of the WABC. Latest to join the ranks is Mary Davis, who was given a special course by the engineering staff before assuming her duties.

another one, for \$30,000,000 for the same purpose has been introduced in the House. Measures only take care of small dailies and weeklies, and ignore radio stations, magazines, film houses and other media which have been plugging bond sales. NAB is on record as opposed to any such subsidy, but insisting that radio should act its share if newspapers do. Small picture house operators have argued that they are equally entitled to a piece of the melon, for the fact they are doing for the Treasury.

stentiously. Morgenthau wrote to Senator Harry Byrd (D., Va.), chairman of a joint congressional economy committee, 'this proposal was made in an effort to help sell War Bonds. I should like to have it on the record that it will not help sell War Bonds. As a matter of fact, it is likely to prove an almost insurmountable hurdle to the continued promotion of War Bonds.

'As you know, we now depend upon cooperation by advertisers, publications, radio and the advertising industry generally, to provide, without cost to the Treasury, the huge amount of advertising space and time required to reach and convince 130,000,000 people. By this means, we are amply reaching all the important markets that would be available through this subsidy.

'We cannot continue this method if we pay one of those cooperating groups to leave the others in status quo. Either we must pay all or none. And, if certainly seems wasteful, to pay any of them any more as the vast majority are willing to continue supporting bond drives on a patriotic basis.'



**Selling COLD TABLETS ON WMC Memphis**

also selling many other products on many other stations.

George E. Helly  
**TEXAS RANGERS LIBRARY**  
HOTEL POMEROY MEMPHIS, TENN.

## D'ARTEGA

ALL GIRL ORCHESTRA  
Now Working in their First Paramount Picture

Personal Management  
ERNEST LIEBMAN  
1440 Broadway, New York  
Director: William Morris Agency

WHERE MICROPHONES BRING GLANDERS

"We sing your praise, WMGB:  
You bring the Best of Hollywood!  
For fun and laughter, Boop Snooks.  
For heart-nymph music, Richard Crooks.  
Then, after the show, a Thonus, too,  
Who tells each day of the news.  
For the best in '43, stay tuned to WMGB."

**WMGB Richmond, Va. NBC**

13th WEEK—CAFE SOCIETY UPTOWN PHILCO "RADIO HALL OF FAME" DEC. 19TH

# Trammell vs. Radio Control

Continued from page 29

means work for engineers, architects, artists, writers, or lumberjacks, millers, textile mills and other manufacturers—more musicians will be needed, more performers required, more writers, more salesmen and more employment generally will result. There are some of the far-reaching possibilities that must be considered in the revision of the radio law. Congress must determine, he continued, whether the radio industry is to flourish under a free enterprise system or become a tool of the Government. The questions that arise in these respects bear upon the fundamental philosophy of radio legislation in determining whether radio will creep or will be allowed to walk in post-war development.

"For example," Trammell added, "present FCC regulations have already imposed a strait-jacket on the creation of television networks by prohibiting the ownership of more than three television stations by any one company. Ownership and operation of key stations in the network are as important in this new service as they are now in standard broadcasting. These key stations are needed to coordinate the network's program service and to provide the economic basis to meet the tremendous development costs. It is clear that such an enterprise cannot be self-sustaining until millions of television receivers have been sold.

Saying that the radio industry stands about where films stood 20 years ago when sound first was introduced to the screen, Trammell was enthusiastic about the prospects for broadcasting but tempered his buoyancy with the warning that Government actions with respect to legislation might very well shake the industry and impede progress for many years.

**FM Investor Testifies**  
At Monday's (6) session of the committee considering the White-Wheeler bill FM was discussed by its inventor, Dr. Edwin H. Armstrong, professor of electrical engineering at Columbia U. who predicted his static-free system would be the major development in the radio art with television coming along later. He admitted when questioned by Sen. Burton K. Wheeler, co-author of the bill, under consideration, that the FCC gave FM its "biggest boost from 1940 on.

Armstrong likewise declared he would have made better progress in getting additional FM wave lengths if RCA would have said that I was correct."

**Paley Testimony Hit**  
An attack on William Paley's testimony before the Senate committee was featured in the statement made before the committee Friday (3) and Saturday by Ray C. Wakefield, Republican FCC Commissioner.

"I would like to talk about the chain regulations which seem already to have come in for an honorable mention here and there," he said. "It is not my contention that they are letter perfect. It is my contention that they provide a sound basis for effective regulation of the industry, subject to whatever changes may prove desirable after experience with them. In addition, they enhance, rather than endanger, the great constitutional guaranty of free speech.

Mr. Paley's testimony ran something like this: First, the regulations themselves were bad. Thus, he says, "We think, despite the amendments that the regulations are unsound and destructive." Yet, he must admit the regulations have been a certainty now since last May and CBS continues to make more money than ever before, and that network business continues to grow, even since last May. It is also interesting to note that this "deduction" story is not the same story that Mr. Paley's company hands its advertisers.

In a booklet of questions and answers on the new regulations, CBS tells all advertisers that the rules do not jeopardize their network program; that they do not cut loose the stations from the network; that they expect no greater rate of turnover of station affiliations; and that the Columbia Broadcasting System definitely intends to continue its broad program policy.

**No Corpus Delicti**  
"So Mr. Paley's first point is that the regulations are destructive although he did not produce the corpus delicti. Next, he says: 'If you must have the regulations, then let Congress write them into the statute. If it is true that they are destructive,

I cannot understand why he would want to place the regulations into statutory form where it would be more difficult to change them than if this discretion is left with the Commission.

"Mr. Paley now expresses the belief that the recent Supreme Court decision has given the FCC power to regulate program content and thus arrogate free speech. Mr. Paley, Neville Miller, my colleague, Commissioner Claven, and others who criticize the Supreme Court opinion as conferring upon the FCC power to determine the content of radio programs apparently assume that the words 'content' and 'composition' mean the same thing. They use them interchangeably. . . .

"So far as I know, no one at FCC, and certainly no member of the Commission itself, wants, or thinks the Commission should have, the power to censor radio programs."

## WABC, Inc., Files

Albany, Dec. 7. WABC, Inc., has filed papers to operate a broadcasting company with offices in New York. Directors are W. Townsend, Richard W. Hogue and Marjorie Clipp.

Hughes, Hubbard and Ewing, N. Y., were filing attorneys.

## M'Millin to Coast On 'Sardi,' 'Mystery' Shows

John M'Millin, vice-president of the Compton agency in charge of radio, leaves Monday (13) for the Coast, to be gone several weeks.

Hell confer on the agency's 'Breakfast at Sardi's' and 'I Love a Mystery' shows originating there, and will look around for available new programs.

## 'Nero Wolfe' Vice 'Gun' For Elgin Watch on Blue

Chicago, Dec. 7. 'Nero Wolfe' half-hour detective thriller sponsored by the Elgin Watch Co. hits the airways Jan. 21, 6-30 (CWT) over the Blue Network.

Show replaces 'Man Behind the Gun,' which will be dropped after the Dec. 25 broadcast.

## Bigger, Bentley Back

George Bigan, program director of WLW, Cincinnati, and Julian Bentley, news head of WLS, Chicago, have returned from a short visit to England as guests of BBC.

James D. Shouse, radio vice-president of Crosley Corp., Cincinnati, who went to England with them, has not yet returned.

## Ousted FCC Trio File U.S. Claim In Move to Recover Back Pay

Washington, Dec. 7.

The Watson-Dodd-Lovett case, which loomed big in the news last July, went into headlines again on Friday (3) when the men sued in the U. S. Court of Claims for back salary, charging that Congress had unconstitutionally deprived them of their jobs.

Goodwin B. Watson was chief of the analysis division, Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service of FCC, at \$6,500 a year. William E. Dodd, son of the former Ambassador to Germany, was assistant news editor of FCC, at \$3,200, and Robert Morris Lovett was assistant to the Governor of the Virgin Islands, at \$4,600.

The trio was charged with belonging to "subversive" organizations by the Dies Committee and later by a special House committee set up specifically to check the Dies charges. As a result, Congress fixed a rider to a deficiency appropriations bill which stated that they had to be discharged from Federal payroll by Nov. 15 unless they were re-nominated by the President and their nominations confirmed by the Senate in the meantime. The President signed the bill, since the appropriations were needed for payroll purposes, but he de-

nounced the rider as unconstitutional and based on a bill of attainder, since the men did not have an open trial of the charges. Before reluctantly going along, the Senate had earlier made similar charges against the House findings.

The men were all permitted to remain at work for an extra week past Nov. 15 to give them ground for the suit that they were being deprived of their salaries by the Government.

## RCA CUTS COMMON, PREFERRED MELONS

Radio Corp. of America declared its first dividend on the common for the year when the directorate met last week, although the 20c melon-cuttling actually will not be paid until Jan. 26. It goes to all shareholders on record next Dec. 17. RCA also declared the usual 8% quarterly divvy on the first preferred, covering the quarter ending next Dec. 31. This dividend is payable next Jan. 1 to stockholders on record Dec. 13.

The 20c common divvy is the only one declared during 1943.

# COVERAGE...Yes

...BUT LOOK AT THAT FIT!



No...YOU wouldn't buy a coat that fits like this one!

And so it is with radio...you don't buy a station that gives you coverage you don't need...and you don't buy a station that doesn't completely cover a market. You want a station with coverage that fits! Without paying for excess coverage that trickles over into other miscellaneous markets in which you are not

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In Baltimore, the station that does just that is WFBR, with a signal that is strong enough and clear enough to reach into the homes of over a million people that live in the city that is the six largest in the country.

**WFBR**  
RADIO STATION BALTIMORE  
NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE: JOHN BLAIR & CO.

# Britton-Wheeler-Macs Boff \$31,000,

## Cleve.; Morgan Mighty 25G in Cincy

(Estimates for This Week)

**Bill Barde**, Providence (Metropolitan): 3,200; 36-55—Plus 'Tis Love Again' (Indict) and Inquiries, others on stage. Sturdy \$5,000 in 3-day weekend run.

**Milt Britton**, Cleveland (Palace): 3,700; 35-65—With 'Happy Land' (2nd), and Bert Wheeler, Merry Macs, others on stage. Paving city by wide margin, with band-stage layout and picture at even on b. h. appeal. Terrific \$31,000, best here in months.

**Bob Chester**, San Francisco (Golden Gate): 2,800; 35-55—Plus Iron Major (RKO), and new vaca topped by Three Stooges. Second week for b. h. appeal. \$12,500.

**Jimmy Dorsey**, Minneapolis (Orpheum): 2,800; 40-65—With 'Top Man' (U.), and two new on stage. Office dynamic, Dorsey always being an ace draw here. Terrific \$23,900 is likely.

**Glen Gray**, New York (Strand): 2,750; 35-65—With Willie Howard in person and 'Northern Pursuit' (WB). Currently in second week looking good \$27,000 though off considerably from first week.

**Wendy Herman**, New York (Paramount): 3,600; 35-65—With 'Marion Hutton, others, in person, and 'No Time for Love' (Para). First week for picture, fourth for Herman and Miss Hutton, ended very strongly last night (Tuesday) at \$65,000.

**Art Kessel**, Oakland (Orpheum): 3,000; 30-65—With 'Doughnuts in the Face' (Col). Good \$12,500 expected. Picture rated as having small appeal.

**Rue Morgan**, Cincinnati (RKO): 4,100; 3,200; 44-85—With 'Man From Down Under' (M-G), and others, on stage. Patent \$25,000.

**Alvino Rey**, Los Angeles (Orpheum): 2,200; 45-75—With 'Lucky St. Smith' (U.). Average \$17,000.

**Ted Flo Rito**, Newark (Adams): 1,300; 35-59—With Squadron Leader N. (RKO) and Jack Parker, Eddie Durbin, Frank Cady, on stage. Strong \$18,500, influenced by supporting acts and Hollywood.

**Jan Savitt**, Boston (RKO Boston): 3,200; 75-81—Plus Frank Sinatra, Three Welles, Mary May, and Co-Eds (RKO). Carried along on tidal wave of Sinatra, and impossible to figure band's part in it.

**Raymond Scott**, New York (Capitol): 3,500; 35-65—With 'Beaumont, Jackie Miles and Al Dexter' orch, and 'Gilt Gears' (M-G). Combination of picture and stagebill drawing took \$60,000 in two weeks.

**Charlie Spivak**, Chicago (Chicago): 4,000; 30-65—With 'Swing Music' (M-G). Sold \$14,000, unusually good this week in view of light screen fare.

**Al Traer**, New York (State): 3,450; 35-61—With Patricia Boyeman, others, on stage, and 'Cross of Lorraine' (M-G). Picture here on first-run and undoubtedly receding aq stage support for good \$30,000 of next.

**Lawrence Welk**, Philadelphia (Earle): 2,700; 35-65—With 'Everybody Loves a Winner' (U.), and others on stage. Safe \$15,000 or thereabouts, but all theaters are off currently here.

## Cugat, Dick Gilbert Join In Dance Promotions

'Xavier' Cugat and Dick Gilbert, WIN, N. Y., disc jockey, will promote two dances in N. Y., Dec. 18 and 19 at the Audition and Manhattan Club Ballrooms, respectively. Cugat and Gilbert are equal partners in the venture and share alike in profits above expenses—and in losses, too, if any occur. These dates are Gilbert's initial promotions this year. Last winter he ran several under similar arrangements.

Another matter common to running dances in N. Y., too, Paul Brenner of WAAT, N. Y., is operating every week (Saturdays) at Mecca Temple, using Bobby Hackett's orchestra for the entire series. Hackett started Saturday (6). Brenner's use of the same band each week is predicated on his belief that the affairs, called 'Dance Club Parties' after the tag of his program, are more important. He gives away a far coat and other items weekly as door prizes.

## Meeder Out of Race

Pittsburgh, Dec. 7.

Clair E. Meeder, head of the musicians union here for last 11 years, has withdrawn his candidacy to succeed himself again, which will allow Paul 60 as first vice president. Meeder, who has been elected since 1932, even though he left town in August to become an aide to James C. McFadden, AFM proxy, was nominated for the local presidency once more and only pulled out of the race a few weeks ago.

Candidates to succeed him are Ed Williams and Gene Urban.

## Sturchio, Now Father

### Of 7, Is Ordered Up For Army Induction

Pittsburgh, Dec. 7.

Louis Sturchio, known professionally as Pervex Lewis, and the local sax-playing father of seven children, the latest of which arrived just a few weeks ago, has been ordered up by his Chicago draft board to report for induction in Dec. 13.

Sturchio, who is in Chicago, was playing three couple of years ago with the Baron Elliott orch. Local officials of the Musicians Union reported to the board to defer the induction at least until after Mrs. Sturchio had recovered from the operation performed when she gave birth to the last child.

His original 1-A classification brought Sturchio Page One publicity all over the country. At that time, the board said it was not a proper manner to get the musician into a war industry. So Sturchio left the Baron's band, with which he had toured at the time, to come back home. For a while he doubled as a war plant and played with Pervex Lewis in Windy City when he was left town again. In September he left town again to go on the road with Russ Rogers and took Morgan Sturchio, the seventh Sturchio put in an appearance. For last fortnight he has been appearing as a single at an Oakland night spot, the Club Casino. Lewis' wife will receive \$500 a month from the army if he is inducted.

Hamilton Fletcher, manager of WB's Strand in Parkersburg, W. Va., was induced recently and is now in uniform. He's the father of five children.

## Assoc. Booking Corp. Title for Glaser-MCA

Joe Glaser-Music Corp. of America president, involved an exchange of \$100,000, which Glaser received for a 50% interest in his booking firm. Agreement also gives MCA an option to buy up the remaining half of the firm within two years, after which Glaser will retire to California to personally manage his bands from there. He has long desired such an arrangement.

While many of Glaser's bands, such as Les Brown, Jan Savitt, Russ Rogers, were under MCA agency contracts prior to Glaser's deal with MCA, the former has a substantial agency business of his own in colored and white bands and acts that have no connections with MCA.

Ozile Nelson's band set for 'Anybody Here Seen Kelly' at Universal.

## Bands at Hotel B. O.'s

(Presented herewith, as a weekly tabulation, is the estimated cover charge business being done by name bands in various New York hotels, clubs, and restaurants (7-10 p.m.) not rated. Figures offer name of hotel, give room capacity and cover charge. Larger amount designates weekend and holiday price. Compilation is based on period from Monday to Saturday.)

Hotel	Room Capacity	Cover Charge	Weeks Played	Turnover
Hay Heatherline, Baltimore	400; \$1-\$1.50	25	1,200	24,975
Land Motels*, Lexington	300; 75c-\$1.50	95	1,275	17,125
Benny Goodman, New Yorker	400; \$1-\$1.50	8	2,575	21,750
Tommy Dorsey, Pennsylvania	500; \$1-\$1.50	9	3,725	30,100
Joe Bonasina, Waldorf	450; \$1-\$1.50	9	2,475	28,400
Count Basie*, Lincoln	275; \$1-\$1.50	4	1,950	6,550
Joe Lombardo*, Roosevelt	400; \$1-\$1.50	9	2,300	21,550
Earle Madriguera Commodore	400; \$1-\$1.50	2	1,200	5,025
Abe Lyman*, Essex House	300; \$1-\$1.50	2	1,150	2,700

\* Asterisks indicate a supporting floor show. New Yorker and Baltimore have ice shows. Waldorf has the Hartmans, Annamary Dickey.

## Chicago

**Giff Williams** (Emoire Room, Palmer House): 750; \$3-\$3.50 min.). Conventioners helped Williams and Dean Murphy keep page one up to great 11,000.

**Jimmy Jay** (New Walnut Room, Bismarck hotel): 465; \$1.50-\$2.50. Off since here but Jay managed to get good 4,800.

**Johnny Long** (Panther Room, Sherman hotel): 950; \$1.50-\$2.50 min.). Combo of conventions, last days of Charlie Spivak and Long's opening hit sold \$10,000.

**Ned Bondu** (Mayfair Room, lackstone hotel): 400; \$2.50 min.). Bondu and Carl Brisson kept figure up to near capacity 3,600.

**Earle Madriguera** (Commodore): 400; \$1-\$1.50 min.). 50c and 75c cover charge plus \$1.25 min.). Oliver, established favorite here, responsible for big 8,200.

## Los Angeles

**Freddy Martin** (Ambassador): 900; \$1-\$1.50. Consistency is a brewer with Martin so the count again skis 4,000.

**Joe Reichenman** (Biltmore): 900; \$1-\$1.50. Clientele here a natural for Reichenman's band of music and the week's checkup crowding 4,000 tabs.

## Location Jobs, Not in Hotels

**Teddy Venable** (Paladium, Los Angeles). Hollywood, first week. Name means nothing but he'll build as word gets around that he's got a first week outfit. Staid count should hit 22,500.

**Ken Upton** (Blackhawk, B. Southgate, first week). Kid with the smile is back again and that's good news. Won't have any trouble rousing to around 7,000 copies.

**Paul Harris** (Slappy Max's, Los Angeles, fifth week). Taking all the b.o. can stand, adding up to another 2,000, the floor show sharing equally.

(Chicago)

**Loe Brees** (Chez Paree): 650; \$3-\$3.50 min.). Gertrude Nielsen and Brees playing to turnaway big with another capacity 5,000.

**Del Courten** (Blackhawk): 500; \$1-\$2.50 min.). Courteny holding clientele to very good 5,500.

## Band Bookings

**Richard Himber**, Dec. 8, week, Boston theatre, Boston; 18, private party, Worcester, Mass.; 19, Shubert theatre, New Haven; 23, Capitol theatre, N. Y.

**Charlie Barnett**, Dec. 17: Sluskey theatre, Pittsburgh; 24-26, State theatre, Hartford; 31, Strand theatre, N. Y.

**Benny Goodman**, Dec. 13, Turner's Arena, Washington, D. C.; 14, Palomar Ballroom, Norfolk, Va.; 15, Navy, Annapolis, Md.; 18, Hipp theatre, Baltimore; 24, week, Earle theatre, Philadelphia; 31, week, Sluskey theatre, Pittsburgh.

**Ted Flo Rito**, Dec. 15-16, Poli theatre, Waterbury; 17-19, Met theatre, Providence, R. I.; 20-22, Plymouth theatre, Worcester; 24, week, Sluskey theatre, Pittsburgh; 31, Earle theatre, Philadelphia.

**Xavier Cugat**, Dec. 19, Audubon Ballroom, New York; 19, Manhattan Center, N. Y.

**Louis Prima**, Dec. 19, Paramount theatre, Hammond, Ind.; 24, Central theatre, Passaic, N. J.

**Jan Garber**, Dec. 14-16, Palace theatre, Columbus; 17, week, Palace theatre, Cleveland.

## ENRIC MADRIGUERA

and His Orchestra on Columbia and Mutual Networks

FEATURES

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World Famous

VIOLINIST AND CONDUCTOR

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# Metro Still Indicates Possibility Of Entering Recording Biz Postwar

Metro apparently is still figuring on going into the recording business just after the war, according to outside recording contracts for artists under contract to the company. Its attorneys have been demanding notice clauses enabling the artist to lose from a disc agreement before his expiration. Metro figures six months' reasonable enough.

Notice clauses in disc agreements are unworkable. Metro's attempts to have them inserted can indicate nothing but an intention to go into the business itself after the war. Such a move is not entirely a new idea. Little over a year ago the studio made overtures to Tommy Dorsey and other artists and executives connected with disc firms now active, but with the exception of Dorsey, who was hot on the idea at the time, made little progress. Dorsey, it is understood, was one of the initiators of the plan. It's with Victor.

## Harriet Clarke May Sing With Barnet Band Again

When Charlie Barnet's orchestra opens at the Strand, N. Y., Dec. 23, his estranged wife, the former Harriet Clarke, may be vocal with the outfit. Barnet hasn't been able to find a singer to replace Virginia Lee and for several weeks has been after Mrs. Barnet to play the Strand with him. She sang with the band before they were wed. Barnet is said to have recently received a 1-A draft classification.

## KAY STARR BACK HOME

Joe Venuti has disbanded his orchestra for the duration and his tritone vocalist of post several years, Kay Starr, has come home to Memphis. She has done several radio sprints since returning. Venuti is reported going to California to live on his ranch and work film studio jobs.

## Russ Morgan to Coast

Russ Morgan's orchestra heads eastward after the first of the year to open a new name band spot, the Claremont hotel, Berkeley, Cal., Jan. 16. He is booked for 16 weeks. Morgan, currently in Cleveland at the Palace, is just taking any dates over the Xmas holidays. He's coming into N. Y. for that period.

## DISC COS. FILE BRIEFS WITH WLB THURS. (9)

RCA Victor, NBC-Recording Division and Columbia Recording Corp. petitioners before the War Labor Board in their dispute with the American Federation of Musicians, will file briefs tomorrow (Thursday) with the three-man WLB panel which heard the case in New York. The AFM filed early last week.

The union will subsequently file an answer to the recording companies, which was submitted jointly by Ralph Colvin, CRC attorney, and Robert Meyers, counsel for RCA and NBC Recording. The case is under consideration by the panel, which has 2,000 pages of testimony to wade through. A decision is expected after Jan. 1.

## Osborne's 4-Wk. Rest

Will Osborne won't remain out of action more than four weeks. He underwent a thorough check-up in N. Y. Sunday and was advised that nothing was radically wrong with him. He leaves this week for a four-week rest in Florida and will return his band immediately thereafter. The first date will be Jan. 14-16 at the State theatre, Hartford.

All of Osborne's key-men will take vacation while the leader is away. He will form the nucleus of a new organization as soon as he's ready.

## Gordon Going Sweet

Gray Gordon will sidetrack his band's jump style within the next couple weeks to return to his former sweet groove. Now playing at a small Newark niter, Gordon last week shifted agency affiliations to the William Morris office after paying \$575 in back commission to another agent.

When Gordon debuted his jump band several years ago he was inadvertently responsible for tracking the Lou Cabini, niter, N. Y., from exclusive use of sweet music. Louis, Lou Cabini owner, would have no swing music in his spot and bought Gordon as a sweet band. When the outfit opened he almost fired it opening night, but the band was so successful in drawing business, staged. Thereafter the Lou Cabini was a jump music stand until it closed for the duration.

## N. Y. Local Slaps \$1,600 Sustaining Radio Bill On T. Dorsey at Cafe Rouge

At 202 of the American Federation of Musicians presented Tommy Dorsey with a bill for approximately \$1,600 last week, representing money the leader owed for sustaining broadcasts from the Pennsylvania hotel. N. Y., under the local 83 man per broadcast regulation, Dorsey had no argument with the local's bill, but asserted he had been told by Music Corp. of America, his bookers prior to opening at the Penn, that the \$3 rule had been shelved for the duration, hence hadn't proffered payment.

Dorsey is working on such a close financial margin at the Penn that the \$1,600 probably puts his Penn date on a loss basis. MCA has been supplying him with Coca-Cola broadcasts weekly, at \$1,200 per week, plus a percentage of the covers; the radio shows were just about letting him break even. Even so, the beating he will take financially will be small compared to the \$28,000 his brother, Jimmy, dropped playing the Penn 12 weeks early this year.

# Artie Shaw's Naval Band Back in U.S. After 68,000-Mile So. Pacific Tour

By BERNIE WOODS

CPO Artie Shaw's Naval band spent more time in traditional football, basketball, and other sports than it did entertaining the Marine fliers and Army men on that outpost during a two-week stay there last summer. Experiences of Shaw and his men during their seven-month 68,000-mile tour of the South Pacific were varied and frequently frightening, but in mid-September on Guadalcanal did they come direct contact with the enemy. Jumps were from Pearl Harbor various stops on New Zealand, Hawaii, Australia, where they played virtually every major camp, hospital, etc., aboard.

## PIC DELAYS GOODMAN'S OVERSEAS USO TOUR

Benny Goodman has been turned down in his request to 20th-Fox for a few taking his band overseas on a USO tour. Leader was advised last week that preparations for the film were so far advanced that delaying it would be impossible. As a result, the offshore swing will be delayed until the film's completion.

Goodman, now at the New Yorker hotel, N. Y., will be required there next Monday (13) by Sonny Dunham. Goodman goes on a short film, nightclub and theatre schedule before reporting on the east. Film is based on the story.

## Anthony, Out of Navy. Back As Band Singer


Bob Anthony, singer recently given a medical discharge from the Navy, joins Glen Gray's band at the Strand, N. Y., next week in place of Tommy Morgan. Anthony was in charge of a landing party at Salerno and during one of many attacks by Nazi planes he was blown into the water when his band was sunk. He also took part in the Africa and Italy landings.

Before going into uniform he was with Bunny Berigan's band. Dave Allen, now with Paul Martin's orchestra, is another band-singer who's a discharged veteran. He was discharged by the Army after being injured in the Tunisian campaign.

While the experiences of such musicians as Max Kaminsky, trombonist, San Donahue, sax; Doc Coughlin, crum; Dick Jones, arranger, were often tough, the only danger of them will take freely about is the amusing incidents that lie on the edge of the memories of being under fire, or the POWs that, at any time they might find themselves traveling from point to point they were almost always assigned to stations in the event of an unexpected engagement).

The numerous air raid raids, sea-pirates and centipedes on Guadalcanal were a constant source of gaps, as well as accidents. In radio-free hours the men lived in tents and the rats in the foxholes; during radio hours, the musicians, the musician diving for shelter and the rats for food.

(Continued on page 36)



**WHAT MAKES A GREAT SONG GREAT?**

**THE HIT PARADE... SHOO-SHOO BABY made it in only 6 weeks—A RECORD!**

**RADIO PLUGS... SHOO-SHOO BABY is NUMBER ONE on every major Network!**

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**LEEDS MUSIC CORPORATION Lou Levy, President**

**GEORGE SCHOTTLE—New York AL FRIEDMAN—Chicago HAPPY GODAY—Hollywood**



## 10 Best Sellers on Coin-Machines

(Records below are grabbing most nickels this week in jukeboxes throughout the country as reported by operators to 'Variety.' Names of more than one band or vocalist after the title indicates, in order of popularity, whose recordings are being played. Figures and names in parentheses indicate the number of weeks each song has been in the listings and respective publishers.)

1. Pistol Packin' (Morris).....	Decca
2. Beautiful Morning (18) (Crawford).....	Decca
3. Beautiful Morning (18) (Crawford).....	Decca
4. Beautiful Morning (18) (Crawford).....	Decca
5. Beautiful Morning (18) (Crawford).....	Decca
6. Beautiful Morning (18) (Crawford).....	Decca
7. Beautiful Morning (18) (Crawford).....	Decca
8. Beautiful Morning (18) (Crawford).....	Decca
9. Beautiful Morning (18) (Crawford).....	Decca
10. Beautiful Morning (18) (Crawford).....	Decca

### OTHER FAVORITE

(These records are directly below first 10 in popularity)

Cuddle Up Little Closer (Harms).....	Decca
How Sweet You Are (Remick).....	Decca
Dorothy Nesbitt, pianist, beginning.....	Decca
her fifth straight year as.....	Decca
Nineties: Lounge of Hotel.....	Decca
Pittsburgh.....	Decca

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invites its many friends  
in the entertainment world  
to attend the opening  
of its new offices

today, December 8th.



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New York

## ASCAP MEETING DELAYS MPPA BOARD HUDDLE

Muscle Publishers' Protective Association board meeting, originally scheduled for yesterday (Tuesday) afternoon, was postponed.

Tuesday (11) because of a Publishers' Classification Board meeting at ASCAP, set for the same time.

Since many of the men on one governing body are also on the other, the deferment of the MPPA meeting was a must.

MPPA board will discuss executive elections to be held soon, along with other matters.

## ASCAP Given Okay In Wisconsin Cases

Chicago, Dec. 7.

The U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals recently ruled, last Saturday (4) reversed its opinion and ruled that ASCAP is now entitled to relief in the State of Wisconsin, under the copyright act.

Because a Wisconsin law provided that anyone seeking to license public performances of copyrighted music compositions had to take out a state license and pay 25% of their receipts to the state, all cases brought by ASCAP for infringement were thrown out because of their constitutionality according to the law.

New the six cases in abeyance can be reinstated and judgments granted. One of the cases, Leo Feist vs. Wiley Young, who operated a night spot in West Allis, Wis., known as the Allis House.

## Decca's 'Okla.' Album Sets Back Other Discs

Decca's production of 'Oklahoma' album, on which it is far behind the demand, is responsible for the lag in getting pop discs to the public to the extent that Bing Crosby's version of 'I'll Be Home for Christmas,' solely a holiday item hit the market only a week ago. Other discs, of which much expected are also being slowed by the 'Oklahoma' album bottleneck. Decca refuses sales figures on the book, but it's said to have surpassed 50,000 copies.

Other pop discs delayed by the show-tune set are Ella Fitzgerald's 'Cow Cow Boogie,' Jimmy Dorsey's 'They're Either Too Young or Too Old,' Star Eyes' and several others.

## Irving Romm Gets Pro Mgr. Spot at S-B, N. Y.

Irving Romm stepped into the professional manager spot at Shorin, Bernstein office in N. Y., Monday (6). He will work under the supervision of Jonie Taps, general manager.

Romm was with Harms for a short period before transferring to Shorin.

Pat Luther Warmbath sold 'Sea of Trouble,' 'The Lord Awaits Me' and 'The Lord I My Pilot.' Negro spirituals to Eddie Burrell for a forthcoming Metro picture.

## Artie Shaw

Continued from page 35

the food in the tents. One night a lone Jap plane came in unobserved and, without making a sound, arrived with the blast of a bomb. So fast did the tooters hit the nit trenches that they had the rats for company. Kaninsky cracked to them collectively, 'Aren't you guys in the wrong place.'

During the stay on Guadalcanal one of the men got a cake in the mail from home. To protect it from insects and rats it was balanced on a steel helmet inverted in a pile of water. Soon after, a news item announced a raid and Shaw ran around in circles looking for his helmet. When he finally found it he was all for wrapping his clarinet around someone's neck.

The most difficult task the musicians encountered on their long trip was keeping instruments in playable condition. The humidity of the jungle created the bass violin open, rusted and otherwise ruined sax and brass.

Like others returning from the South Pacific, the musicians began the lack of whiskey. Almost every kind of liquor is sold in a bottle in that area and they tell of the soldier who captured a Jap flag. Offered various sums up to \$500 for it, the owner refused all except an outright swap for a bottle of rice brought in by a replacement. Money is worthless to the island garrison. It's said that poker games are played for such high stakes that pots are opened with \$10 bills.

During the stay on Guadalcanal Shaw and his men were regularly entertained by recorded music of his own band and other top name outfits via shortwave from Tokyo. Discs were regularly used by Japs on a 'Zero Hour' broadcast, interspersed with propaganda relating imaginary trouble back home and telling orders that they were 'saps to continue fighting when they could be home with their best girls, etc.'

After more than two-thirds of the trip, with canteens delivered in junks, aboard lighting ships, in all sorts of places and in all sorts of weather, Shaw and one of his men got together one evening and drafted a telegram they were going to send to two bookkeeping agency friends in N. Y. Message, which never went out, consisted of one word—'amateur.'

## E. C. MILLS REPORTED LEAVING SPA AS G.M.

According to reports, E. Claude Mills is leaving as general manager of Songwriters' Protective Association. Decision supposedly came about after recent meetings of the SPA council.

One of the reasons reportedly entered around Mills' salary.

Max Lyman's orchestra will be shifted into the Commodores Room at the Essex House Hotel, N. Y. New Year's Eve. Room has about doubled capacity of Casino-on-the-Park, where Lyman is spotted otherwise.

## NAB, ASCAP In

## Contract Clash

First convalescence of the newly formed Music Committee of the National Association of Broadcasters, which took place Dec. 1-2 in New York, brought about a difference of opinion between the NAB and ASCAP in re program contracts. Broadcasting group, which met for the purpose of improving the music situation in radio, signified that it was dissatisfied with the way ASCAP handled its individual program contracts.

Pointed out was the fact that some aspects of the 'society's' nullity be in violation of the Consent in which the Society agrees payment for a per-program license, including a station break and a non-music portion in a program (especially mentioning two 15-minute portions, first half of which uses ASCAP music followed by a station break and then a final 15-minute portion of non-music). They added that ASCAP, by demanding the full 8% commercial fee for each 15-minute portion, is violating the decree. 'The Society charges stations 8%' of the total revenue for each 15-minute portion, but any station operates on half-hourly portions.

ASCAP countered that no controversy exists to it between the Society and member stations on the per-program contract.

## FEIST'S 50TH ANNI CELEBRATION TODAY

Leo Feist music pub organization celebrates its 50th anniversary this Wednesday (8) by losing a party to the profession at its new offices in the Brill Building, a large section of the ninth floor having been refurbished as new home for the firm.

In 1933, Leo Feist, a former corset salesman, had the something you saw strongly he decided to become a publisher after his maiden effort, 'Does The Love Ever Run Smoother,' was turned down by his pals, Edward B. Marks and Joseph W. Stern. Song flopped, but the second effort, 'Smoky Mokey,' became a hit of the day, establishing the firm of Feist.

Firm has published over 10,000 copyrights, including such standard hits as 'Over There,' 'Darktown Strutters' Ball,' 'A-K-K-Katy,' 'One O'Clock Jump,' 'Rummin' Wild,' 'Rummin' Wild,' etc.

Present Feist organization, headed by gen. prof. mgr. Harry Klein, is currently exploiting Metro picture songs. It's one of the Jack Robbins 'Big 3' firms (Miller, Feist and Robbins Music Corp.).

## J. T. ABLES' NEW AIDE

Julian T. Ables, the copyright attorney who is also special counsel for 20th-Fox, has added Sidney Koenig as an aide. He was law secretary to Judge John C. Knox, chief justice of the U. S. District Ct. in N. Y. and will specialize in Federal court practice, which embraces copyright and trademark matters.

Carmen, seven composition around music for 'Cover Girl' Jumbia.

GOOFY AS A GOON! SILLY AS A LOON! A SLANGUAGE ALL ITS OON!

# HAIR

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New Location 1619 Broadway, New York

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# SINATRA SINGS!

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## The Music Stopped

in 1943 first musical of the New Year "HIGHER & HIGHER"

### THE MUSIC STOPPED

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Hear SINATRA Sing It  
over WABC and CBS network.  
Sunday, Dec. 12th—7:15 P.M. (E.W.T.)



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Detroit, Mich.

## Can. Music-Users Join Up in Fight Against BMI Collection Agcy.'s Levy

Toronto, Dec. 7. Theatre, broadcasting and hotel interests in Canada have lined up a battery of legal counsel to fight the proposed collection of royalties on South American and Mexican music played here, this in protest to the tariff schedule filed for the first time in Canada by the American Performing Rights Society, New York.

APRS, which claims to have the South American rights to over 40,000, of Pan-American music. For 1941, APRS wants a tariff of 10c to 25c per seat per annum for every theatre in Canada, and to for every radio set legally operated here.

Following a meeting of the Musical Protective Society of Canada, which guards the interests of theatres, radio stations, hotels and the Canadian National Exhibition, this group has submitted a protest to Secretary of State McArthur, Ottawa, objecting to the levy. The hearing will commence Jan. 29, before the Copyright Appeal Board, which must approve levies tariffs before these can be collected.

According to Col. John A. Cooper, president of the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association of Canada and treasurer of the Musical Protective Society of Canada, there are approximately 700,000 theatre seats in the Dominion and close to 3,000,000 radio sets.

Fundamentally the Canadian row is between the Canadian Performing Rights Society, collection agency here for the American Society of Authors, Composers and Publishers, and the American Performing Rights Society.

At the present time, CPRS is collecting royalties from Canada's broadcasting industry, theatres, hotels and other purveyors of music. Their schedule of fees has been acceptable to the MPSC since approved by the Copyright Appeal Board on Dec. 15, 1939, after another bitter battle among all concerned. For 1941, the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. and the Canadian Association of Broadcasters are committed to pay CPRS a total of \$128,310.40, this.

(Continued on page 40)

For the Past Ten Weeks

NUMBER ONE IN ENGLAND!

# SILVER WINGS IN THE MOONLIGHT

350,000 copies sold to date!

For America we have placed this number with

THE MILLER MUSIC CO.  
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## 15 Best Song Sellers (Week Ending Dec. 4)

Paper Doll.....	Martha White Christmas.....
Pistol Pickin' Mania.....	Mayfair
Beautiful Mornin'.....	Crawford
Either Too Young.....	Witmark
People Will Say.....	Crawford
Victory Polka.....	Chappell
Heart Tells Me.....	BVC
Sun, Mon. or Always.....	Mayfair
Say a Prayer.....	Southern
Be Home for Xmas.....	McLure
Put Your Arms, Honey.....	Bevy
How Sweet You Are.....	Remick
For First Time.....	Shapiro
Shoo Shoo Baby.....	Leeds

## 3 Pubs Split 'Higher' Score

Three publishing firms will work on the score of the forthcoming Frank Sinatra musical, 'Higher and Higher' (RKO), an unusual circumstance brought about by the fact that one of the writers of the melody is under contract to Robbins Music, while RKO itself was under contract to release the tunes through the Max Dreyfus combine (Chappell-Crawford-T. B. Harms). Robbins, therefore, has three of the songs, while Crawford has one, and T. B. Harms one.

Dreyfus published the score of 'Higher' when it was a Broadway musical and it has been his practice to have such contracts call for publishing rights to any tunes stemming from a film version in the event a show is sold to Hollywood. This occurred in the case of 'Higher'. If you happen come up with a claim to the tunes because Harold Adamson, who collaborated with Jimmy McHugh on them, was under contract to Robbins. Matter was settled by Robbins taking 'Music Stopped.' 'I Saw You First' and 'You're on Your Own.' Crawford has 'A Lovely Way to Spend an Evening,' and Harms, 'I Couldn't Sleep a Wink Last Night.' Incidentally, Harms' plug song of 'Wink is its first effort on a pop song since 'Day Dreaming' some time ago, which is composed mostly of valuable star ards.

## TWO T. DORSEY MUSIC FIRMS NOW INACTIVE

Tommy Dorsey has temporarily put his own two music firms, Embassy and Yankee, into an inactive category. He released Irving Brown and Harry Bernie, contact men, last week. Brown went with Compton Porzie and Bernie to American Academy of Music, Mills subsidiary. How long the two outfits will remain inactive isn't certain. Jack Johnstone, former general manager of both, has been manager of Dorsey's band the past several months, replacing Leonard Vannerson. But Johnstone is due to give way soon to Dave Jacobs, former trombonist with Dorsey, who got out of the Army Friday (3). He was with Perry Command at Long Beach, Cal., and received a medical discharge. Johnstone will then return to the music firms.

Dorsey's move with Yankee, which is an ASCAP firm, and Embassy, a BMI affiliate, doesn't disturb the Dorsey Bros. Music Co., firm owned by Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey jointly. George Martin is musical manager of that outfit.

## NBC, CBS, Blue, Mutual Plugs

Following list of the most played popular tunes on the networks for the week beginning Monday and through Sunday, Nov. 29-Dec. 5 from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. is divided into two sections. The first section represents the first approximately 25 leaders in alphabetical order (in some cases there are ties, accounting for a longer list), and the second section contains the 'also runs,' but noted in alphabetical order. The compilations embrace the NBC, CBS, Blue, and Mutual Networks, as represented by WEAF, WABC, WJZ and WOR, N. Y., and are based on data provided by American Recording, earlier, regular collector of the music publishing industry.

TITLE	PUBLISHER
Besame Mucha.....	Melodylane
Candlelight and Wine.....	Miller
Don't Believe Everything You Hear.....	Robins
Don't Swoon Me.....	Advance
For First Time.....	Shapiro
Have I Stayed Away 'too Long'.....	Famous
How Sweet You Are.....	Remick
I Couldn't Sleep Last Night.....	Harms
In a Pretty Little House.....	Campbell
Is My Baby Blue Tonight.....	Broadsay
I've Had This Feeling of.....	Santly Jay
Little Did I Know.....	Lorenal
My First Love.....	Dorsey
My Heart Tells Me—'Rosie' 'Tady'.....	BVC
My Ideal.....	Paramount
My Shining Hour—'Sky's the Limit'.....	Harms
No Love No Nuthin'—'Gang's All Here'.....	Triangle
Oh, What a Beautiful Morning—'Oklahoma'.....	Crawford
Old Acquaintance—'Old Acquaintance'.....	Witmark
Paper Doll.....	Marks
People Will Say We're in Love—'Oklahoma'.....	Crawford
Put Your Arms Around Me—'Gang's All Here'.....	Broadway
Shoo Shoo Baby—'Three Cheers for Boys'.....	Leeds
Swing Low—'One Touch of Venus'.....	Chappell
Star Eyes—'I Dood It'.....	Witmark
Surf With Fringe on Top—'Oklahoma'.....	Crawford
They're Kidding Too Young Too Old—'Lucky'.....	Witmark
When They Ask About You.....	Harms

### MOST PLAYED

Pistol Pickin' Mania.....	Alorin
Victory Polka.....	Chappell
Civil You Do Friend Favor—'Connecticut Yout'.....	Harms
I Dux a Ditch—'Tintinnaboli Choe'.....	Frist
Oklahoma—'Oklahoma'.....	Crawford
If You Please—'Dixie'.....	Witmark
Paducah—'Gang's All Here'.....	Triangle
Take It Easy—'2 Sisters and a Sailor'.....	Santly
Ho, Ho, Ho—'Holiday'.....	Berlin
Blue Bird.....	McLure
Close to You.....	Barton
Do Nothing Till You Hear From Me.....	Robbins
Goodbye Sue.....	Jewel
Journey in a Star—'Gang's All Here'.....	Triangle
Sounded to Love.....	Black
What Do You Do In the Infamy.....	Saunders
Be the River of Roses.....	Shapiro
Brazil—'Saludos Amigos'.....	Southern
Say a Prayer for Boys Over There—'Here to Hold'.....	Southern
Sunday, Monday or Always—'Dixie'.....	Max fair
Swing Weather—'Swing Weather'.....	Mills
Begin the Beguine—'Jubilee'.....	Harms
Poinciana.....	Marks
The Dreamer—'Thank'.....	Harms

† Filmisual. • Legit musical.

## NBC BEEFS PLUGGERS TIE UP DEPARTMENT

NBC has filed a complaint with the Contact Men's Association, asking that pluggers be advised again to refrain from telephoning the network's central booking office seeking information on band records. NBC once before kicked the union over the practice, which hinders the working and otherwise lessens the effectiveness of the personnel of that department. At that time music men were ordered to call a halt.

After the first complaint, according to publishers, NBC agreed to supply the information to the union, which would in turn make it available to all. Union asserts it has not been served with the info for some time.

Karl Hales signed by Angelus Pictures to score 'The Shouting Party.'

## "DEACON JONES"

RED SKELETON SHOW  
FITCH BANDWAGON  
OLD GOLD PROGRAM  
ROMA WINE SHOW  
HOLLYWOOD OPEN HOUSE

CALIFORNIA  
SERENADE AND  
COCA-COLA 3 TIMES!  
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If You're Important to  
The Music Business  
TUNE-DEX  
Is Important to You!

## The Most Asked For Song Today—

# WHEN HE WALKS ABOUT YOU

By Sammy Stept

799 Seventh Ave., New York 19, N. Y.

IRVING BERLIN, INC.

Dave Dreyer, Gen. Prof. Mgr.







GEORGIE PRICE  
MUSIC CORPORATION OF AMERICA  
745 Fifth Avenue

New York, Dec. 6, 1943.

Variety,  
154 West 46 Street,  
New York.

Dear Boys:

Congratulations to 'Variety', Philco and all of show biz. The program was great and I was proud of you and happy that I am of the theatre.

Sorry I won't get to see you for some time, as MCA has booked me into Harold Koplar's Chase Hotel in St. Louis from the 18th to January 1st; then to open in California at Slapsie Maxie's new place in L.A. Frisco follows.

Expect to play Blackstone, Chicago, again in May, also Mayfair, Boston, and probably Las Vegas, Nevada; Radison, Minneapolis; Mexico City and Chicago Theatre. Of course, the rotation is a little scrambled, but you probably get the idea that I am booked and re-booked.

The six months I just played for Lou Walters at his Latin Quarter — was grand. Incidentally, he's a terrific guy.

Buddy Arnold is out of the Army and back at the piano for me. We have some swell new songs.

Best to all of the muggs from Cam and me. Take care of the store.

Love and kisses,

*Georgie*



# Bway Advance Sales Big: 'Carmen' 161G, 'Lovers' 68G, 'Turtle' 60G

There has been a perceptible drop in Broadway's attendance, traceable to the Christmas rush to the stores, but advance ticketing for the new hits mounts to big money.

In the van of the latest advance selling are "Winged Victory," the new Street, and "Carmen Jones," newest power draw, which opened at the Broadway last week. There are other fresh shows collecting real advance by means of mail orders, advertising in the boxoffice and theatre parties, there being flocks of the latter in ticket deals arranged for before now and Christmas. In a class by itself is "Oklahoma," selling further ahead than any other show, with more than about \$181,000 in advance as of Monday (6). Of that amount \$121,000 was represented by theatre parties and about \$60,000 in regular advance selling, latter being being big consideration in the time between the date it was booked into town and the opening, Thursday (2). "Victory" is virtually sold out all performances for eight weeks and established a record advance for a premiere.

"Lovers and Friends" (Katharine Cornell), Plymouth, didn't fare well on reviews but it has \$48,000 in advance tickets, being available into February. Before the show opened parties had been held to report that 15 parties had been arranged. For "The Voice of the Turtle," which opened (Wed.) at the Morosco and which has arrived with the forecast that it is a pure thing, advance for that attraction is estimated around \$60,000.

## Reaction

It is expected that reaction from the new stock successes will result in tapering off in the grosses of established hits but to the degree can not be clearly indicated until after New Year's. If the declines are marked the lightening of the boxoffice situation on Broadway will be relieved. Jan. 15 had been the date for the jam in the boxoffice situation was figured to come but that has been set back until the end of the month.

Extension of two more weeks for "Victory" has been made and tickets for the two weeks of January have been ordered. "One Touch of Venus," Imperial, was supposed to follow "Victory" at the 44th Street, but the former will remain in its present berth until Jan. 20, meaning that "Mexican Hayride" at the Imperial, N. Y., and opening in Boston this month, will remain out a bit longer than planned.

As yet no house has been set for "Judgement," Victor-Freedley's new musical, which tried out in New Haven last week. Possibilities are the 46th Street (which has "Rebels") and the Shubert, where "Othello" is scoring a record run. Figure that last date would be the last for the road by Feb. 1 but tickets are announced to go on sale for as late as Washington's Birthday.

Some opinion is that "Victory" could run until June, there being no doubt also about the chances of "Oklahoma," "Venus," "Folies" and "Carmen," which now comprise Broadway's big five.

## REINHARDT MEMORIAL CONCERT NETS \$3,500

Kerstin Thorburn, Met. Opera soprano, and 40 members of the New York Philharmonic, by Bruno Walter, honored Max Reinhardt at a memorial benefit concert in Carnegie Hall, N. Y., Tuesday night (3). Ernst Lubich, successor to Reinhardt as director of the repertoire theatre in Berlin, delivered the intermission address and related Reinhardt's experiences, tenets and accomplishments.

The concert realized \$3,500, which will be used to build a monument to Reinhardt in Salzburg after the war.

Another tribute to Reinhardt will be given at the Ebell theatre, Los Angeles, Dec. 15. Joseph Sigeti, violinist, and Ernst Wolfgang Korngold, composer, are sketched as the pianists, Korngold to accompany Sigeti.

Speakers will include Thomas Mann, Edward G. Robinson, Mady Christians, Marjorie Main, Patricia and Olivia de Havilland.

Will of Reinhardt was filed for probate early this week, the estate going to the widow, Helene Thimig, to whom is bequeathed one-half, the balance going to two sons.

## Western R.R. Assn.

### Snags Show Troupes On Baggage Transport

Chicago, Dec. 7. At a recent meeting held here by the Western Railways Assn. it was agreed that no more show troupes using two baggage cars on one train or one round-trip would be transported after Feb. 1, 1944. While the move is no blow to small units it will stop any large musical shows, opera companies or ballets from traveling intact.

Heretofore it has always been possible to get extra baggage cars through laxity of rules and rates, the Interstate Commerce and localities of the ICC. These are being tightened up, however, and plans submitted to the Eastern roads while not yet officially okayed, are expected to be definitely approved. There's a flaw in the plan, however, that leaves it wide open for cheating, especially where there are competing lines in the picture, no provision having been made to prevent splitting the transportation of a show between lines and using a couple of baggage cars on each. For instance, three shows could be used between here and Milwaukee, four between here and St. Louis, etc.

Recognizing the importance of show life to public morale the Western Railways managements are bending backward a little on the 30-day plan of reservation and whenever 25 to 40 people are to be moved at one time they are being given a slight preference over previous civilian reservations.

Despite OTD Director Estheim's request that no conventions be held and travel kept down to a minimum there are more conventions here than ever before and trains are bringing in thousands of conventioners weekly.

## Billy K. Wells' Musical

Billy K. Wells, vet comedy writer, is setting an early Broadway musical production called "Joe Miller Ride Again." Music for production is by Al Evans, director of Papermill Theatre, Millburn, N. J., with lyrics by Fred Herenden.

Besides authoring and directing sketches, Wells plans active participation in the production.

## Moss Hart's Tutors

Moss Hart, author-director of "Winged Victory," the U. S. Air Forces play, now at the 44th Street, N. Y., lecture to the members of his servicemen's cast the other afternoon (Thurs.) on a non-military day at that theatre. Subject of lecture was "playwriting" and Hart recalled his first hit show, when he was 22, "Once In A Lifetime," which he originally wrote alone and then revivified with Geo. S. Kaufman.

Hart acknowledged a necessary factor in writing a play is observation. "For instance," he wrote "Once In A Lifetime." I had never been to Hollywood nor inside a Hollywood type of studio. What I knew of the movietown, I learned by reading "Variety" and the movie magazines. Hart later went on to state that despite his small knowledge of filmville, "Once In A Lifetime" is still looked up to as a top play based on the movie scene.

## Herk Begins Serving Time

I. H. Herk, sentenced to six months for presenting "Wine, Women and Song" to be a good performance, at the Ambassador, N. Y., last season, has started to serve the time. Around one-third of the time will be automatically dropped from the sentence, so his incarceration will be for slightly more than four months. The theatre is operated by the Shuberts, but they were not involved in a police complaint, convicted in the conviction. Commissioner Paul Moss resigned the Ambassador, and there were implied threats of show censorship at the time. It was charged that the production was inspired by pressure groups, a Catholic organization being specifically named.

An appeal for reversal was recently denied unanimously by the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court. Last week an application for further and final hearing in the court of appeals was declined.

A petition had been circulated and presented to Judge Owen J. Bohan, who imposed the sentence, but the case came before Judge J. J. Donnellan for consideration. Defendant had been free under bail, a writ of reasonable doubt having been issued last spring by Justice Sidney J. Bernstein.

## Hampden, Dowling in Senate Pleas To Cut Proposed 20% Legit Tax

### Adrian Damage Claim

#### Will Go to Arbitration On Myerberg Ouster

Instead of going to court, claim for damages by Henry Adrian, producer of "Victory Belles," against Myerberg for ouster from the management of the show from the Mansfield, N. Y., which he leases, will probably be arbitrated. That was a stipulation in the contract for the "Belles" booking and that method was used when the show received notice to vacate the house. Adrian won but the show was evicted anyway, Myerberg contending that Adrian had not paid the guarantee for the subsequent week. Injunctive proceedings failed but the show was suspended anyway.

"Belles" rejoiced at the Ambassador Sunday (5) and upon its continuation will depend the amount of damages sought. If the play does not receive a day of it, Adrian figures to claim that through Myerberg's action its chances were clipped. Up to the time "Belles" was forced off it represented an investment of \$52,000, inclusive of operating losses. The show's gross was around \$180,000 and there was some improvement, fourth week (when the show suspended) being slightly over \$3,000.

Maurice Speiser, attorney for Adrian, contends that because the business was better the eviction precluded "Belles" from climbing to such a level where it would be profitable, although on Broadway such grosses as registered by the show indicate many chances for success. Speiser points out that as the gross of \$3,000 more than covered the show's rental of \$2750, there was money on hand to cover the house's claim.

## Thomson Resignation Of 4A's Post Accepted

At a session of the Associated Actors and Artists of America last Friday (2) the resignation of second vice-president by Kenneth Thomson was accepted. Thomson, who was also executive secretary of the Screen Actors Guild, recently resigned from that union to enter the William Morris agency.

No replacement was immediately made for Thomson in the F.A.A.

Broadway legit delegation which appeared before the Senate Finance Committee last week to appeal for a downward revision of the 20% admissions tax, present in the new revenue act as framed by the House, was headed by Harry Hampden and Leslie Dowling. Of the 100 or more was 15 other groups who, opposed the lofty levy, all the latter representing theatre interests, appeal for revision being made collectively.

Hampden was reserved in his address, saying that many shows had just got by and if attendance was reduced, which would follow the new act, the House would force those shows would be forced to close. He recalled a tour of some 20 weeks which he had made in the last year, those shows would be forced to close. He recalled a tour of some 20 weeks which he had made in the last year, those shows would be forced to close. He recalled a tour of some 20 weeks which he had made in the last year, those shows would be forced to close.

Dowling touched on the theatre as far back as the days of the Greek drama then provided the means for cultural progress, and said that the theatre was a valuable asset in all countries. The actor also told of an amusing incident in 1910 when he was in the White House. President Roosevelt a year or two ago, when Ambassador Litvinoff was present, told him that the thing which he wanted was of bringing the theatre back over here.

The ambassador replied that the thing which he wanted was of bringing the theatre back over here. The ambassador replied that the thing which he wanted was of bringing the theatre back over here. The ambassador replied that the thing which he wanted was of bringing the theatre back over here.

Previously, Edward Johnson, general manager of the Metropolitan Opera, had said that the committee he did not oppose raising the admission tax from 10% to 20%, but thought that a ticket tax should be applied to the Met because the latter was an educational rather than a commercial theatre. Only two members of the committee were present, but Johnson said he had applied to the Met because the latter was an educational rather than a commercial theatre.

On Broadway it was thought the new act would be a disaster, but it drew an exemption for which, which draws the wealthiest clientele of any type of attraction, and that tickets were taxless but about two years ago taxes were made to apply to all types of admissions, including charity events. In that class was "This Is The Army" and the current "Winged Victory" at 44th Street, N. Y.

## Jerry Whyte Nearly Winds Up Staging 'The Kaypee Folies'

Jerry Whyte, former stage manager of "Oklahoma" (St. James, N. Y.) and acting similarly with "Winged Victory," Army Air Forces show at the 44th Street, N. Y., got his first taste of Army life last week. An inductee, he went to Camp Upton just to get his uniform. That's where he thought he was making the mistake of making the wrong crack to a sergeant and for three days he lay in bed, thinking he had been assigned immediately to "Victory."

He was just about to be inducted with a flock of other draftees to a basic training camp when his number was called and he found out he was shipped back to the "Victory" job.

## 'JOHNNY' HALTS MARCH WK. DUE TO MISTAKE

"Marching With Johnny" is laying off this week due to a mistake in dates. Show management expected it to play Baltimore starting Monday (6) but it was discovered no booking provision had been made there for the CIO review. Because of the error Equity made a concession, okaying the show without pay currently instead of the week before Christmas.

"Johnny" plays two weeks in Philadelphia starting next Monday (13), coming to New York at City Center Theatre Dec. 27.

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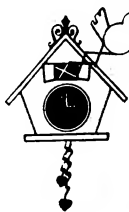












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VOL. 153 No. 1

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# LECTURE DESPITE PRE-XMAS

## Liquor Shortage Increasingly Felt By Niteries; Seek to Up New Year Prices

Even before the New York Regional OPA office had set a ceiling on story funds for New Year's Eve, the bistro had fixed their prices at figures approximating last year's. As trade stands now, most places, with their liquor supplies, definitely limited, don't figure to realize nearly the returns of previous years, when New Year's Eve was the highest grossing night. The situation is generally true throughout the nation.

Present prices range widely from \$4 per person at the Park Central Grand to \$15 per person in the class spots such as the Waldorf-Astoria and the Waldorf-Astoria. El Morocco has the high \$15 a couple, at one time it was \$20 a table. Prices include liquor, entertainment and taxes, but no drinks.

More than 50 niteries and restaurants are got to under the OPA decree here last week (11) to file returns for tipped covers on New Year's Eve (page 54).

## SELZNICK VAGUE ON ANY LEGIT PLANS

Hollywood, Dec. 14.—David O. Selznick's plan to produce an Broadway in jump with Gilbert Miller, Michael Alexander, et al., is very vague and nebulous at this time, Selznick says he's been busy for some time with the idea of producing stage plays and then filming them, but nothing definite has been arrived at.

He has talked to the Theatre Guild's Lawrence Langner and Louis Jacob, who have been here, but it's largely regarding their properties for filming and not any immediate theatre venture.

## Few Pubs Allocate Xmas Bonuses; WLB Not Talking

Broadway Music (Von Tilzer) owned Charlie Lang business manager Shalom and Nemo Hoff, combined \$4,000 last week as Xmas bonuses. Buddy Murray distributed six weeks' salary among employees operating his variety catalogues.

Majority of the firms still are being handicapped by the War Labor Board, it's said, resulting in small or no bonuses at all. Broadway's action is supposed to be based on an accumulation over time and both Felt's major ones this year was "Your Arms Around Me" Honey. Felt's had a \$1,000 bonus for his work, capped by the current "Pistol" on "Mama and Sunday, Monday."

Top bonus distribution was made last year by Irving Berlin, Inc. \$100,000 out of \$25,000 among its employees. However, no individual topped \$10,000. Jimmy "The Professional" manager of the Metropolitan, earned \$15,000 from 1939 through several years ago.

## Pals in Song, Too

Capitalizing quickly on the headlines is new time titled "Franklin, Winston, Karl, Shick and Joe," which made its appearance this week, published by Mills Music.

Writer is Lawrence Gaskill.

## BBC Bans 'Paper Doll' From Air As 'Insult To English Womanhood'

London, Dec. 15.—Peter Maurice Music Co., English publishers of "Paper Doll," will have plenty of trouble finding this number into the air.

The British Broadcasting Corp.'s Selection Committee does not like such a theme and has taboos it from the other, maintaining words are insult to English womanhood, and it allowed to be broadcast, will cause plenty of objection from the female listeners. Arthur Bliss, highbrow musician and one of the committee, has described it as "lowering the standard of 'pop' songs in the country."

When asked by the publishers why they allowed the airing of "Blues in the Night," which is also unfavorable to women, the committee advised itself that it would have been a hardship to that song.

Meanwhile, American boys over here are asking all hands to sing if they are dancing to play "Doll," aware that the song has been sent over here by the Army with the "H" tag.

## U.S.-Eng., Nazis Swap Piv For Showing to Prisoners

Deal for the exchange of motion picture films to be shown in prison camps has been worked out between British and German authorities, according to word from neutral and Axis sources.

Under the reported plan, Nazis will send 250 pictures to German-occupied camps in the U. S. Great Britain, North Africa, etc., and British and Americans will send 100 films to Nazi soldiers who are prisoners of war in Germany. Exchange will be handled through Sweden.

**CANTINFLES FOR FOX PIX?**

Hollywood, Dec. 14.—Ramon Novarro, Mexican film and theatrical producer associated with FOXA Film, here from Mexico City, is in the middle of negotiations with a major studio to bring Cantinflas to the United States for pictures.

While here, Cantinflas will produce a picture for this production in Mexico as starring vehicle for Jorge Negrete.

Mexico's No. 1 comedian.

## 'CARMEL', 'VOICER' 2 NEW SMASHES

Bizet Boff Biz Wiz at \$40,000 —'Turtle' Sets Fast Pace at \$16,000 for First Seven Performances

## FLU BEING FELT

Broadway leg's big boxoffice keeps rolling along, the usual pre-holiday slump having only a slight effect this year. Major dent, however, may be made this week because of the flu epidemic, with ticket cancellations Monday (12) being as high as 50% of orders at some houses.

A great pre-holiday hypo to (Continued on page 32)

## Balaban Gifts 'Bill of Rights' To U.S. Library

The "Bill of Rights" in manuscript form, only important historical document not included in official Government archives, has been purchased by Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, and will be presented by him to the Library of Congress. Announcement of the gift was made yesterday (14) by the Treasury Dept. (Continued on page 54)

## P.A. Minds Kids for Critics; His Blurbs Are Probably On 3-Cornered Stationery

Cleveland, Dec. 14.—Need somebody to look after your children while neighborhood? Just call Mirth Ploukin. Freelance literary agent, who has organized a novel "I'll watch your kids-for-a-pace" service for Cleveland newspaper critics.

Gag was born when p.a. invited Oskar Ramey, drama reviewer for Scripps-Howard Press here, to have dinner at Alpine Village, one of his downtown hotels. Newspaper manager said he couldn't make the date since he couldn't get a neighbor or a hired hand to slave with his two youngsters that night.

"If that's the situation," replied Ploukin, "I'll act as nursemaid so you and your wife can see the show."

P.A. showed up at the critic's house with an ever-ready bag, even toys for the kids and a bottle of Scotch for himself.

## Flu Hits Players in Hollywood And B'way Casts; Also Affects B.O.

**Cause to Cheer**

Jerry Lawrence, WMCA, N. Y. disc jockey, interrupted his radio show for a moment to give his fans a real round of applause.

Frank Sinatra has just been placed in 47. Come on—let's give him a real round of applause.

## Sinatra's Pitt Biz Surprises, But In Reverse—It's 4F

Pittsburgh, Dec. 14.—Second week of Frank Sinatra's "heavenly engagement" at Stanley in the exact duplicate of first in Boston, except in one very important respect, business. Sinatra's draw, in fact, is proving the biggest disappointment in the history of the WB deluxer, and management can't put a finger on it.

In everything else, however, his Pittsburgh visit has been going according to role. He charmed the press and grabbed more space in the three dailies than the Russian campaign. The bobby-sox brigade started to line up at the theatre 3 a. m. the morning of his opening, and that off-again, on-again drizzle status, which made it look for a time as if he'd have to miss most of Saturday, was good for column after column, of course.

Stanley figured at first that school's warning to pupils they'd be expelled if they played hockey to hear Sinatra might have had something to do with the slim opening. First stage show Friday (10) went on at 8:45 and there was only third of a house on hand. Second wasn't much better. But when biz was below expectations all day long, even after school had let out, house knew (Continued on page 32)

Hollywood, Dec. 14.—Epidemic of flu, laryngitis and kindred ailments during the last week cost Hollywood plenty in delayed production, not counting the numerous hospital bills. In some cases the casualties were so numerous that shooting stopped completely.

Illness of Virginia Bruce cost RKO an entire week in the filming of "Action in Arabia," located in the sandy country where flu is practically unknown. Indirectly, the shutdown at RKO delayed the start of the Angelus production. "The Moon Thru the Mistresses," which is waiting for George Sanders to finish his chore in "Arabia."

Roy Rogers, the hardy horseman of Republic, had flu with a touch of pneumonia, causing a month's delay in the shooting of "The Cowboy and the Senorita," originally slated to start Dec. 1 but postponed to January. Jack Benny's laryngitis and Dolores Moran's influenza cost two days on the "Horn Blows at Midnight" at Warners, and a germ attack on Lionel Barrymore stopped work (Continued on page 32)

## 802 MUSICIANS QUOTING \$50 FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE

Prices for New Year's Eve club jobs have been almost doubled by N. Y. Local 802, Musicians, for the coming holiday. Leaders who have attempted to round up club jobbers for work on that night have run into \$10 per man quotations, plus transportation.

In former years the highest prices paid for New Year's Eve work was \$35 as low as the \$22.50 scale for five hours' work.

The prices mentioned, of course, are for work on New Year's Eve. They apply only to outfits made up for particular appointments from individual musicians. In such cases, the leader hired for the work makes his own salary deals with each musician.

## The Hour Of Charm

All-Girl Orchestra and Choir

Conducted by Phil Spitalny

KATHRYN









# THE PICTURE BUSINESS

## Wall St. Looks to Continued Sellers' Market in Film Distribution Biz

Current sellers' market is regarded as the prime reason in financial circles for the continued high net profit being reported by virtually all picture companies despite high tax hauls. Such market predicted on continued high attendance at bulk of large theatres, has enabled distributors to obtain good rentals, since almost any type of screen fare is in demand. Extended runs by the bulk of pictures is another factor contributing to the fine financial showings by virtually every film corporation, the trade having full realization that long runs represent a saving in every spot where possible.

Typical of the demand for all screen fare, of course, is the popularity of releases even in key city deluxes, and even greater prominence in major company and indie circuits houses. Dangling off the picture have been so well and obtaining fresh coin on them when sent out as releases, represents to much gray for distributors.

Fact that there are fewer pictures, with many of them better than usual has proved a leverage in sustaining the sellers' market. It's simply a case of every exhibitor trying to get much profit out of the shelf, so as to keep open regularly.

Net result of this setup, as viewed in Wall Street, probably will be the best financial showing in six years or even more picture companies. It obviously is back of the extra million cuttings this month for year-end distribution or early in 1944.

## LIGHTMAN TO ENGLAND ON M-G PROD. PARLEYS

Hollywood, Dec. 14. Al Lightman shoves off for England shortly after noon, to assume his duties as executive producer of the picture "The Night of the Hunter," which he is producing with Sir Alexander Korda and Ben Gertz on a picture Metro produced in London.

While he is away, Lightman's executive board duties will be shared by other liaison members.

## Pic Riders Forced By Gas Pinch to Double Up

Hollywood, Dec. 14. Share-the-ride in the film industry were told to share more rides by Paul Burkhardt, D'Orr, district rationing chief, at a meeting attended by representatives of 27 studio crafts. D'Orr declared the gas situation is growing more serious, owing to war's demands, calling for a cut of 35% in civilian usage. The share-the-ride plan, he explained, could be organized successfully on an average of 2.5 occupancy for all cars.

## Heast Blasts 'Hostages' In Hun As 'Communist'

Boston, Dec. 14. The Record-American—"Heast," says 'Hostages' the usual severe blasting in reviews following premiere at the M. & P. Paramount Fenway theatres, charging the picture as plain Communist misquoting under the guise of Czech 'betrayers.' Yarn was piped in from the Coast under the by-line of 'Thomas Reddy.'

Referring to Heast drama dept, no local reviewers looked in on the pic.

## Brown's PCA Trio

Hollywood, Dec. 14. Producers Corp. of America has signed Harry Joe Brown to a contract as producer-director. Three pictures assigned to him carry an aggregate budget of \$2,500,000.

## 'Lifeboat' Into Astor

'Lifeboat,' Alfred Hitchcock production for 20th-Fox, opens at the Astor theatre, New York, Jan. 6 as a roadshow.

Metro showcase was turned over to 20th for the showing following negotiations between company topers.

## Small Back to Dumas

Hollywood, Dec. 14. Edward Small registered the title, 'D'Artagnan,' indicating a return to his favorite author, Alexandre Dumas, for screen material.

Picture, dealing with exploits of the old Musketeers, will be released next summer by United Artists.

## Freedom of Newsreel

(Press) Issue in Time's Appeal on Sinatra-RKO

Restrained from showing and reprint using Frank Sinatra's voice in 'Music at War,' forthcoming March of Time short, set for Dec. 31 release, by Judge John C. Knox in U. S. Federal court, Time, Inc., will appeal to the Circuit Court of Appeals. It feels that the decision in RKO's favor fails to settle portions of law as far as March of Time is concerned. Sinatra sings a song, which was gratuitously given before the WAVES at their Hunter College (N.Y.) training station last November, in 'Music,' RKO Picts contended that release of the short would prove injurious to the distribution of its feature, 'Higher and Higher,' starring Sinatra, set for pre-release in some spots this month.

Judge Knox stressed the need for protecting entertainers who willingly contribute their services to aiding the Government's war effort and failed to agree with Time's contention that Sinatra's appearance at Hunter College before about 2,000 WAVES in the public domain or that, as a news gathering organization, it was entitled to cover such a time-honored event at Hunter's at the request of the Navy Department, and that the newsreel outfit had the right to film Sinatra.

Judge Knox pointed out that Sinatra was asked by authorized request (Continued on page 12).

Due to numerous factors—ranging all the way from the dearth of a small amount of product from some majors, to terms which many accounts feel are out of line—film selling has reached what is regarded in the trade as the most variable ever experienced. This goes all the way from the closing so far of only a couple of deals in the exchange territory of one lesser distributor, to sales approaching 100% in the branch region of another.

Selling is not on an even keel, also, because companies which have shorts to market are held up at the beginning of new seasons in an effort to push the briefs with feature contracts. However, in the case of at least one major which has almost with stubbornness refused to consider shorts along with features, not making a contract for the latter conditional upon a year's deal to cover all shorts, the feature business has attained the highest on record. In other cases, although there is a content decree which says that shorts or newsreels can't be forced, the salesmen are trying to get deals on both at the same time and this, automatically, is slowing up some closings.

Where selling has been slow, it has been due, in part, to no immediate need for product among many accounts, plus an all-around attempt on the part of distributors, large and small, to obtain higher rentals. The distributors are trying to gear the terms up and the exhibitors are trying to keep them down; one circuit executive explained, adding that nowadays business is so good that many theatres are able to stretch the pictures they have bought and, in order to stay in deals, will even play some 'bad ones' or stick in risibles.

Aside from the bickering over terms, which has not been as fast on the whole as in prior seasons, due to the delays caused by rejection of contracts, the necessity for renewal of terms of contracts and the difficulty experienced by salesmen in getting around to their accounts—often—

## SOME COMPANIES FAST, SOME SLOW

## Cowdin Sees Need for Coin Reserve To Help Industry in Post-War Works

### BERNARD SOBEL

Marks Back to

'The Midnight Frolics Cycle'

An Editorial Feature of

VARIETY's

Post-War Show Business Number

(38th Anniversary Edition)

## UA Bluntly Denies

Deal Made on Korda's

Shares Or With Rank

With the deal for purchase of Sir Alexander Korda's 25% interest in United Artists by UA stymied again, Korda now has the alternative of offering his stock to an owner-member of United Artists. Should he fail to secure unanimous approval from the UA owner-members to sell his shares to one of them he could then make a deal with outside interests, such as J. Arthur Rank of England.

While it would be necessary for Korda to secure unanimous approval for the sale of his stock to an owner-member of UA it is understood that the by-laws of the company do not require unanimous approval for the sale of his stock to an outsider, once both the corporation and an owner-member of the company have failed to make a deal for the purchase of his holdings.

It had been reported that Rank is interested in purchasing Korda's UA stock but such a purchase would not give Rank control in the company nor would it be likely to facilitate distribution of British product in the U. S. (Continued on page 34)

In a talk before the National Association of Manufacturers in New York last Friday (10), J. Chester Cowdin, chairman of the board of Universal Pictures, warned that unless private industry is permitted to retain sufficient capital it would not be able to provide post-war jobs for returning servicemen. Cowdin pointed out that it will be necessary to provide 30,000,000 new jobs when the war is won. He urged modification of taxation and simplification of tax returns as one measure to meet the problem.

Cowdin advocates three essential steps as important in the post-war reconstruction period. First, simplification of the tax structure in favor of three or four levies, so simple that anyone can understand them and far below current levies; 2, a balanced Federal budget which will entail drastic reductions in Governmental agencies and employees; 3, a plan for servicing and paying off the war debt during immediately after the war ends.

Cowdin declared that present taxes approach the limit of condonation for many business firms and of diminishing returns for thousands of others. As a result, he said, there has been practically no new enterprise in business now for several years. "A great feeling of American business has been caught in a net of rising taxes, rising costs and dwindling profits." (Continued on page 34)

## MCGUINNIS, EX-SPORTS ED, ON M-G EXEC BOARD

Hollywood, Dec. 14. James Kevin McGuinnis, producer-writer at Metro, was upped to executive level on the executive board of which Louis B. Mayer is chairman.

Former sports editor of the New York Evening Telegraph, McGuinnis joined Metro as a writer in 1930. He has been an independent producer for the past five years.

## Mrs. Raftery Stricken, UA Prexy Rushes East

Hollywood, Dec. 14. Ed Raftery, UA prexy, rushed back east Sunday 11:21 when advised that his wife had suffered a heart attack. He had planned to remain here another 10 days to talk over product with UA producers.

## Edgington, Ex-RKO Studio Head, Joins Lyons Agency

Hollywood, Dec. 14. Harry Edgington, former partner of Frank Vincent in the production business, has joined A. and S. Lyons as executive vice-president.

After his split with Vincent a few years ago, Edgington became production chief at RKO and turned out 'Kelly People' and 'Sunshine' both of which resulted in Academy awards for their stars. Recently he has been an independent producer for the same studio but resigned because of casting difficulties.

## Keep Hutton Busy

Hollywood, Dec. 14. Added to Betty Hutton's busy schedule at Paramount is another musical, 'Out of This World,' currently in production and will with Sam Coslow as associate producer.

Following 'Incendiary Blonde,' now in production, Hutton has three films on the Hutton slate. Other two are 'The Stock Child' and an untitled Mark Sandrich production about the WAVES.

## K-A-O'S \$1.75 DIVVY

Ketch-Albee-Orphen declared a \$1.75 cash dividend on preferred stock of overlying surplus to cover quarterly interest, etc. 31.

Divvy is payable Jan. 2 to holders of record Dec. 29.

# Your Best Salesman In All Markets—Present and Future

To Be Published Late In December



NEW YORK 19.  
154 W. 46th St.

HOLLYWOOD 28.  
1708 No. Vine St.

CHICAGO 1.  
54 W. Randolph St.

LONDON  
8 St. Martin's Pl.









hail!  
kale!

# "The Gang's All Here"





EUGENE PALLETTE • CHARLOTTE GREENWOOD  
EDWARD EVERETT HORTON • TONY DE MARCO

James Ellison • Sheila Ryan • Dave Willock

Directed by BUSBY BERKELEY • Produced by WILLIAM LEBARON

Screen Play by Walter Bullock • Based on a Story by Nancy Wintner, George Root, Jr. and Tom Bridger.  
Lyrics and Music by Leon Robin and Harry Warren • Dances Created and Directed by Busby Berkeley



# Chips But Corvette Fast \$19,000; Death of Hitler - Mountain Fat 66G

Grosses are off at some theaters with the Christmas and pre-holiday slump. **Hill Diddle** (distributed with Jimmy Dorsey's orchestra) is doing poorly. **Chips But** is the topper with sturdy \$46,000. **Corvette K-225** and **Straight** (at the Palace), grossing \$19,000. **"Strange Death of Hitler"** and **"Man from Music"** (both at the Rialto) look about \$10,000 at Woods. **"Old Acquaintance"** will load the holdovers with around \$10,000 at State-Lake.

**Estimates for This Week**  
**Apilo** (B&K) (1,200; 50-85) — "Paris After Dark" (20th) and **Kings for Cook** (Col.) Bright \$12,000. Last week **"True to Life"** (Par) (theatrical) and **Star** (B&K) (1,200; 50-85) — **Russian** (20th) \$11,000.

**Chicago** (B&K) (4,000; 50-85) — **Guadalcanal Diary** (20th) and **"Private Chickens"** (UA) (4th week) \$12,000. Last week, near same.  
**Grand** (RKO) (1,150; 40-85) — **"Crazy House"** (UA) (4th week) \$11,000. Last week, \$11,000.  
**OKay** (RKO) (2d week) **Long Patrol** (RKO) and **"New Moon"** (UA) (3d week) in **Loop**, good \$9,000.

**Oriental** (Iroquois) (3,200; 31-69) — **"Remembering Our Soldier"** (RKO) (4th week) \$11,000. Last week, \$11,000.  
**Palace** (RKO) (2,500; 40-85) — **"Crazy House"** (UA) (4th week) \$11,000. Last week, \$11,000.  
**State-Lake** (B&K) (2,700; 50-85) — **"Old Acquaintance"** (UA) (3d week) \$11,000. Last week, \$11,000.

**United Artists** (B&K) (1,700; 50-85) — **"Lassie Come Home"** (M-G) (2d week) \$11,000. Last week, \$11,000.  
**Woods** (Eastman) (1,200; 50-85) — **"Strange Death of Hitler"** (U) and **"Man from Music"** (Rep.) Sold \$16,000. Last week, \$16,000.  
**Yves** (M-G) (1,200; 50-85) — **"Man from Music"** (Rep.) (2d week) \$11,000. Last week, \$11,000.

**Indpls. Drags Bottom; 'London' Modest \$9,500, 'Butler's Sis' Thin 10G**

Everything is way down in the dumps here this week with small gross of **"Indiscreet"** and **"Christmas"**. Shows that ought to do well normally are dragging near zero. **"His Butler's Sister"** at the Indiana is the best bid from straight films.

**Estimates for This Week**  
**Circle** (Katz-Dollé) (3,300; 30-50) — **"Gateway for Tomorrow"** (RKO) (2d week) \$11,000. Last week, \$11,000.  
**Indiana** (Katz-Dollé) (3,300; 30-50) — **"His Butler's Sister"** (UA) (2d week) \$11,000. Last week, \$11,000.  
**Palace** (RKO) (2,500; 40-85) — **"Crazy House"** (UA) (4th week) \$11,000. Last week, \$11,000.

**State-Lake** (B&K) (2,700; 50-85) — **"Old Acquaintance"** (UA) (3d week) \$11,000. Last week, \$11,000.

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**Grand** (RKO) (1,150; 40-85) — **"Crazy House"** (UA) (4th week) \$11,000. Last week, \$11,000.

**'Find Blackbirds' (WB) (2d wk), fair \$14,000.**  
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# First Runs on Broadway (Subject to Change)

**Astor**—**Cry Havoc** (M-G) (4th week).  
**Capitol**—**Girl Crazy** (M-G) (3d week).  
**Central**—**Crash House** (A) (1st week).

**Hollywood**—**"The Desert Song"** (WB) (17).  
**Loew's**—**"The Desert Song"** (WB) (17).  
**Manhattan**—**"The Desert Song"** (WB) (17).

**Palace**—**"The North Star"** (RKO) (7th week).  
**Paramount**—**"The North Star"** (RKO) (7th week).  
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# B-way Slides; 'Girl Crazy' Banovina Disappointing \$61,000, 'Woman' H.O.

**Stout 50G, 'Girl Crazy' Vaude 68G, 2d**

**Business** on Broadway has gained this week, with most new arrivals doing well as holdovers going below normal expectations, with **"Girl Crazy"** (M-G) (3d week) leading the way with \$61,000. **"Woman of the Year"** (M-G) (2d week) is also doing well with \$50,000. **"The North Star"** (RKO) (7th week) is also doing well with \$40,000.

**Among new shows** that came in during the past week, considerably on the disappointing side is **"Happy Land"** at the Rialto, with Frank Fay, Irini Baranova and the Di Calanes on stage. The first week finished last night (Tuesday) at only \$20,000, and the second week is also disappointing. Also lacking strength is **"The State of the Union"** at the Rialto, with the mentalist, and **Joey Adams** on stage. **"The State of the Union"** (RKO) (7th week) is also doing well with \$40,000.

**Only other new arrival** is **"Mad Ghost"** (U) (2d week), which is doing well with \$30,000. **"Mad Ghost"** (U) (2d week) is also doing well with \$30,000.

**Holdovers with holdovers** that are doing best are **"Music Hall"** and **Capitol**, both being strong. **Former** is doing well with \$50,000, and **Capitol** is doing well with \$40,000. **"The North Star"** (RKO) (7th week) is also doing well with \$40,000.

**Other openings** are **"Crazy House"** (UA) (4th week), **"The North Star"** (RKO) (7th week), and **"The North Star"** (RKO) (7th week).

**Estimates for This Week**  
**Astor**—**Cry Havoc** (M-G) (4th week).  
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**Woods**—**"The North Star"** (RKO) (7th week).  
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**Curie** (M-G) has its only premiere here tomorrow (Thursday).  
**Rialto** (Mayer) (4th week) — **"Mad Ghost"** (U) (2d week).  
**State-Lake** (B&K) (2,700; 50-85) — **"Old Acquaintance"** (UA) (3d week) \$11,000. Last week, \$11,000.

**Woods** (Eastman) (1,200; 50-85) — **"Strange Death of Hitler"** (U) and **"Man from Music"** (Rep.) Sold \$16,000. Last week, \$16,000.

**Yves** (M-G) (1,200; 50-85) — **"Man from Music"** (Rep.) (2d week) \$11,000. Last week, \$11,000.

**Chicago** (B&K) (4,000; 50-85) — **Guadalcanal Diary** (20th) and **"Private Chickens"** (UA) (4th week) \$12,000. Last week, \$12,000.

**Grand** (RKO) (1,150; 40-85) — **"Crazy House"** (UA) (4th week) \$11,000. Last week, \$11,000.

**Palace** (RKO) (2,500; 40-85) — **"Crazy House"** (UA) (4th week) \$11,000. Last week, \$11,000.

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# Hub Downbeat Dops New Entries But Crazy House-Himber Okay \$23,000

Boston, Dec. 14: New features all around are failing to stem the seasonal drop here. Jack London managed the best play at the Loew's stands to date here, but the average hub is merely hanging on till Xmas week when it should spring back.

**RKO Boston** (3:20; 44-59)—**Crazy House** (U) plus Richard Himber, on stage, on Tuesday, Dec. 14, at \$23,000, all considered. Last week, **Crime Similes**, Jan. Savitt, on, Marty May, others, on stage, plus **Falcon Co-Eds** (RKO), all time record at slightly over \$60,000.

**Fenway (M-G)** (1:35; 40-67)—**Parson's** (Par) (U) (1:35; 40-67) (PRC). Drooping to low \$4,500. Last week, **Happy Land** (20th) and **Dancing Masters** (20th), \$5,000.

**Memorial (RKO)** (2:00; 44-75)—**West Fantasy** (U) (2:00; 44-75) (PRC). Begun on Sunday 119, okay, \$20,000 in six days, but better than expected with several new entries. Last week, **Convette K-25** (U), So's **Yvette** (U), \$19,000 in six days.

**Metropolitan (M-G)** (4:30; 35-65) **Parson's** (Par) (U) (1:35; 40-67) and **Footlight Glamour** (C). Hanging over \$20,000. Last week, **Convette K-25** (U), So's **Yvette** (U), \$19,000.

**Paramount (Par)** (2:00; 44-75)—**Jack London** (U) and **Everybody Happy** (C). Mid \$20,000, but to high, \$22,000.

**Paramount (M-G)** (1:30; 40-60)—**Everybody Happy** (C). Mid \$20,000, but to high, \$22,000.

**State (Loew's)** (2:00; 44-75)—**Jack London** (U) and **Everybody Happy** (C). Mid \$20,000, but to high, \$22,000.

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## Perry Como-Wald Lift 'Elmer' to \$16,500, N'w'k

Newark, Dec. 14: Biz note too good this week. Cold spell over the city, but the weather is holding all except two downtown theaters. Pre-Xmas, the big picture, **Elmer Fudd** (U), is doing well, a factor. Best of lot is Iron Major (RKO), which is doing well, a factor. Best of lot is Iron Major (RKO), which is doing well, a factor.

**Estimates for This Week**  
**Almas (Adams-Par)** (1:50; 35-59)—**Here Comes Elmer** (Rep) linked with Jerry Wald on stage. Last week, **Elmer Fudd** (U), \$16,500.

**Paramount (RKO)** (2:00; 44-75)—**Elmer Fudd** (U), \$16,500.

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**Paramount (RKO)** (2:00; 44-75)—**Elmer Fudd** (U), \$16,500.

## OMAHA FEELS SLUMP; 'FOOT' WEAK \$8,000

Business 'way off, but the Christmas slump, Even the Orpheum and Louis Prima band is on skids this week.

**Estimates for This Week**  
**Orpheum (Tristates)** (2:00; 20-85)—**The Washington** (RKO) (2:00; 20-85) (PRC). Drooping to low \$8,000.

**Paramount (Tristates)** (2:00; 20-85)—**The Washington** (RKO) (2:00; 20-85) (PRC). Drooping to low \$8,000.

**Paramount (Tristates)** (2:00; 20-85)—**The Washington** (RKO) (2:00; 20-85) (PRC). Drooping to low \$8,000.

**Paramount (Tristates)** (2:00; 20-85)—**The Washington** (RKO) (2:00; 20-85) (PRC). Drooping to low \$8,000.

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## Flu Clips Det.; 'O'Rourke' OK \$23,000, 'Iron Major' Stout at 17G

### Pursuit Pacing New Cincy Films at \$9,000

Cincinnati, Dec. 14: Mild wave of grippe hit Cincy last week has aggravated but at downtown houses already hit by grippe, the picture business is only "Northeast" in the Capitol, on the right.

**Estimates for This Week**  
**Almas (Adams-Par)** (1:50; 35-59)—**Here Comes Elmer** (Rep) linked with Jerry Wald on stage. Last week, **Elmer Fudd** (U), \$16,500.

**Paramount (RKO)** (2:00; 44-75)—**Elmer Fudd** (U), \$16,500.

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**Paramount (RKO)** (2:00; 44-75)—**Elmer Fudd** (U), \$16,500.

### Boxoffice currently is down and spotty with no clear picture as to the major cause. There is some tendency to attribute the decline to the flu which has hit various areas and brought wariness against public assembly but Det. 15 axes and Chicago dropping, say, may have other factors.

**Estimates for This Week**  
**Almas (Adams-Par)** (1:50; 35-59)—**Here Comes Elmer** (Rep) linked with Jerry Wald on stage. Last week, **Elmer Fudd** (U), \$16,500.

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## Cold Wave Hits Prov. B.O.; 'Old Oka' Nice \$11,000, London 15G

Providence, Dec. 14: With more than 25-degree drop in temperature to keep the usual Saturday and Sunday business, the picture, things were exceptionally dull over the usual busy weekend. Only one movie to come in, **Old Oka** (U) at the Loew's. Last week, **Doctor Maniac** (U) and **Man 1,000 Faces** (U) (reissues), \$15,000.

**Estimates for This Week**  
**Almas (RKO)** (2:00; 30-50)—**Here Comes Elmer** (Rep) linked with Jerry Wald on stage. Last week, **Elmer Fudd** (U), \$16,500.

**Paramount (RKO)** (2:00; 44-75)—**Elmer Fudd** (U), \$16,5



The Message  
of the  
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer  
Convention in Chicago:

“THANKS TO  
OUR FRIENDLY  
CUSTOMERS”



“Not for just a day, not for just a season, but ALWAYS!”

<p><b>M-G-M</b>          AT RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL  <b>GREER GARSON</b>  <b>WALTER PIDGEON</b>          In their greatest triumph  <b>MADAME CURIE</b>          Plus: Great Christmas Stage Show</p>	<p><b>M-G-M</b>          AT THE ASTOR          B'way &amp; 45th St. - Continuous - Pop. Prices  <b>MARGARET SULLAVAN</b>  <b>ANN SOTHERN</b>  <b>JOAN BLONDELL</b>          IN  <b>Cry Havoc</b>          THE WOMEN IN ACTION</p>	<p><b>M-G-M</b>          AT THE CAPITOL          Broadway &amp; 51st Street  <b>MICKEY ROONEY</b>  <b>JUDY GARLAND</b>          in the gay Gershwin Musical  <b>GIRL CRAZY</b>          PLUS BIG IN PERSON SHOW</p>
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"He's the  
 talk of the town!"

(Above) Newspaper Ads in New York tell the old, old story!

**"AND THAT'S  
 WHERE  
 THE  
 TRAFFIC IS  
 HEAVIEST!"**



War Bonds for Christmas Gifts!



# Pretty As A Picture



## Paramount's

FAMOUS ALL-COMEDY PRODUCTION  
POLICY AGAIN OVERWHELMINGLY  
ENDORSED BY PRESS AND PUBLIC IN

# "No Time For

Starring

# Claudette Colbert



This is the return to normalcy. This is the happy ever after antidote for the bitter taste left by the wild spree of problem plays, intellectual dissertations and pedagogical pictures. This is what the world has been waiting for."

.. READ the New York Mirror's simple explanation why Paramount has scooped the industry with this perfectly timed parade of unadulterated *Entertainments*—  
"LET'S FACE IT," "TRUE TO LIFE," "RIDING HIGH," "NO TIME FOR LOVE," "MIRACLE OF MORGAN'S CREEK," "STANDING ROOM ONLY," "THE UNINVITED," and "LADY IN THE DARK."

"This is what  
the world  
has been  
waiting for"

—Lee Mortimer, *N. Y. Mirror*

**CAN YOU PICTURE  
ANY SWELLER  
SINGLE REVIEW LINE  
THAN THIS ?**

**OR THIS** "We insist that you  
go see 'No Time For Love'."

—*Bosley Crowther, N. Y. Times*

**OR THIS** "A comedy block-  
buster. Theatre grosses should be  
blown to ceiling heights."

—*Boxoffice*

**OR THIS** "Grand, hilarious top-  
flight entertainment. A mirthquake."

—*M. P. Daily*

**OR THIS** "As choice a comedy  
as the season will produce."

—*Daily Variety*

**OR THIS** "One long, lingering  
laugh . . . a riot. Audience positively  
howled."

—*Edgar Price, Brooklyn Citizen*

**OR THIS** "A laugh riot . . .  
loaded with laughs . . . It makes you  
howl."

—*N. Y. Mirror*



Fred MacMurray

with

Ilka Chase • Richard Haydn

—A—

MITCHELL LEISEN

PRODUCTION

Directed by MITCHELL LEISEN

Screen Play by Claude Binyon • Adaptation by Warren Duff





# SOON YOUR HEART WILL SING "THE DESERT SONG"



**N.Y. HOLLYWOOD: DEC. 17th**

B'WAY AT 51st • CONTINUOUS • POPULAR PRICES

ONE OF TEASER ADS  
IN NEW YORK CAMPAIGN

*Soon Your Box Office will sing 'The Desert Song'!*

STARRING

**DENNIS MORGAN**  
**IRENE MANNING**

BRUCE CABOT • GENE LOCKHART

Directed by ROBERT FLOREY  
Based Upon a Play by LOUVERNE SCHWAB, OTO HARPOCH,  
Oscar Hammerstein 2nd, Eugene O'Neill, & Light Mandel  
Produced by ROBERT BUCKNER

Our Two Big Jobs in January  
Fourth War Loan and March of Dimes



# A TREMENDOUS ENTERTAINMENT NOVELTY HIT

SPECIALLY GEARED  
FOR HOLIDAY  
CROWDS

with the greatest  
novelty song of  
the decade

# PISTOL PACKIN' MAMA

Based on the song by AL DEXTER  
A REPUBLIC  
MUSICAL COMEDY



MEMO  
THE WISE EXHIBITOR  
WILL DATE NOW  
• RELEASED •  
DECEMBER  
15



RUTH TERRY • ROBERT LIVINGSTON • WALLY VERNON • JACK LA RUE

HELEN TALBOT and THE KING COLE TRIO • Directed by FRANK WOODRUFF • Original Story by Arthur Caesar and Edward Dein

Screenplay by Edward Dein and Fred Schiller







The **MERRIEST** Man-Hunt in **KISSTORY!**

*SHE CHASED HIM CLEAR ACROSS HIS MAP...*

*They're Head over Heels in Laughs!*

What a Picture!

IRVING CUMMINGS' **What a Woman!**

*What a "Find"!*... Sensation of the Year!

with **WILLARD PARKER**

SCREEN PLAY BY THERESE LEWIS AND BARRY TRIVERS  
A COLUMBIA PICTURE

*What Situations!...  
What Laughs!...  
What, Love!...*

The Comedy Sensations of "My Sister Eileen" together again and funnier than ever!

**Rosalind RUSSELL** **Brian AHERNE**

**GIVE WAR BONDS FOR CHRISTMAS**

**COLUMBIA PICTURES**

# Literati Advance Production Chart

(Continued from page 23.)

Price, Mary Anderson, William Elyne, Ruth Ford, James Rennie, Thurston Hall.

## United Artists

Promised Com. Shoot-Now										
42-43 pleted ing Cutting To go										
Roach	.....	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Balchon	.....	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lesser	.....	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Loew-Lewin	.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fressburger	.....	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stromberg	.....	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Mayfair	.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Sherman	.....	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rogers	.....	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Cinema Guild	.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals		24	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



# THE BIG BATTLE FOR THE AIR

## Paul White Hits Censorship

Paul W. White, CBS director of news broadcasts, who was the stormy petrel of the recent censorial controversy, caused some far-reaching trouble (10) when, at a luncheon tossed for Eric Seaverd at the Ambassador Hotel, N. Y., he lashed out at 'stupid censorship.'

White, in introducing the CBS correspondent who returned recently from the China-India-Burma theatre of war, was describing the manifold adventures encountered by Seaverd in his jungle treks, likewise commenting on the official government clamp which still forbids the war correspondent from disclosing unusual episodes in China. Such censorship was characterized by White as stupid, but conceded that if that's the way they wanted it, there's nothing to be done about it.

## 'Ghost Town' Tag Rallies Radio Execs, Talent Into Restoring Chi's Prestige

Chicago, Dec. 14. Radio producers, directors, actors, agency brains, editors and station brass hats are reported today to wrestle with the problem of bringing Chicago back as a major airship production center.

Plans and varied are the opinions being aired as to the whys and wherefores of big shows as well as talent leaving Chicago since the following points seem to be generally agreed upon:

(1) That Chicago, pioneer of the daytime serials, got its initial start by selling them in package deals, which, being sold on a price rather than on quality basis, gave the various agencies a real incentive to play down names on the various shows.

(2) This, of course, allowed the package to be sold for far less than if name talent had been built up with the regular increase in salary costs.

(3) This, in turn, resulted in Chicago gradually becoming known as a "cheap market," and the "ghost town" attacks at the beginning, but gradually spreading to other types of shows as the years rolled by. Thus with the coming of AFRA, salaries leveled off to a regular union scale with no incentive for agencies unwilling to go beyond that figure except in extreme cases. Helping this situation to develop along the line was the fact that plenty of name talent was available on both the east and west coasts; while during a national trend away from Chicago of all shows that were built around a name.

(4) Thus the problem of the radio actor became one of getting more than a salary for their work, but even more important was the problem of gaining recognition. Faced with the double problem, many actors chose to leave.

(Continued on page 28)

## Blue in Talent Bid Via 'On Stage Everybody' Show Premiering Jan. 1

The Blue network will tee off a talent opportunity program New Year's Day with 'On Stage Everybody,' half-hour show to be heard Sunday at 11 a.m. Volunteers in the network's open door talent policy will be given quotations Thursday (20) for the opening broadcast. Only professional performers will be used, and acts will be limited to five minutes. Ray Knight, Blue production manager, conceived the program, which will be staged under his supervision. Joe Ritter has drawn the music assignment.

Comedy and dramatic writers also are eligible to try out, but material must be accompanied by signed releases.

## MEAT INSTITUTE BUYS BENDIX COMEDY SHOW

Hollywood, Dec. 14. William Bendix heads a comedy script shop for American Meat Institute over the Blue network beginning Jan. 16. Rights are being cleared for 'Life of Riley.' Lou Kosloff directs the music.

Three agents figured in the deal. Bendix is a client of the Rosalie Stewart agency. Kosloff is a client of the show and William Morris negotiated the sale.

## Blue Seeks Change In Farm-Home Hr. Show Format; Wash. Huddle

Chicago, Dec. 14.

In line with the Blue Network's policy of trying to develop outstanding shows under the new ownership, Bob White, producer of the National Farm and Home Hour show, and Dr. Harry Summers, chief of public service of the Blue, will huddle with Dept. of Agriculture officials in Washington Dec. 15, in an effort to develop a new format for the show. Show is aired over the Blue Network 12:30-1 P.M. (CWT).

Bob White takes over, effective immediately, as head of public service for the central division. He replaces Eli Drips, who resigned to become director of agriculture programs of the NBC central division.

## Politz Joins Compton As Research Director

Alfred Politz, of the Elmo Roper organization, has resigned to join the Compton agency as research director.

He will also continue his audience and readership research.

## GM'S 1/2-BILLION BUDGET A TIPOFF

by GEORGE ROSEN

The statement by Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., the General Motors topper, before the Second War Congress of the National Association of Manufacturers in N. Y. last week that G. M. is prepared to spend \$500,000,000 as its contribution to post-war reconversion and retooling, is viewed by some radio trade spokesmen as portending the approach of an era in which radio will be widely utilized as media to re-sell private enterprise to the American public.

Behind the Sloan assertion as to the necessity of helping preserve the free enterprise system as the keystone of the American economy is seen the motive for increased spending via radio, with the feeling that after the "unconditional surrender" comes radio will probably reach an unprecedented level of income.

Millions in tax-free monies have been invested in automotive and allied industry (tires, gasoline) accounts through the war years in keeping the trademarked production line going, but the buying public, with indications of upped budgets for the coming year generally regarded as reflecting the attitude that 44 with the "home stretch" before the reconversion sets in.

Budgets for the coming year are (Continued on page 28)

## Dot Lamour, Phil Harris On Sinatra's Initial; Wheeler to Be Fixture

Dorothy Lamour and Phil Harris have been lined up as guests on the debut of Frank Sinatra's new program for Vinnits vitamins. In addition to the two guests there will be a comedian Bert Wheeler, who will be a fixture, and a studio band led by Axel Stordahl, Sinatra's arranger and conductor.

Show debuts Jan. 3 in the 9-30 p.m. slot on CBS. Initial show will be done from the Coast. Sinatra leaves N. Y. Dec. 27 to report at RKO for a new film chore.

## Hanson Envisions 1,000 Tele Stations, 25,000,000 Receivers in 10 Years If FCC Retains Wavelength Allocations

Washington, Dec. 14.

### Coast Pirates

Pirating of dictators and producers of top radio shows on the Coast by agencies is reportedly proving a headache to all the nets. According to one source, just returned from the Coast, one of the vets recently sent three producers to Hollywood, but they didn't keep them long. Within two weeks all were working for agencies.

## CBS Socony Vacuum Show Plans Rotating Bands, Also Stars

CBS Thursday evening line Socony-Vacuum has already bought, beginning Jan. 3, will not be filled by the show auditioned last week consisting of Orson Welles, Rita Hayworth, Jimmy Durante and Duke Ellington. Since all of these performers already have commitments that will take them in different directions after a few weeks, the program may debut with Welles, Miss Hayworth (Mrs. Welles) and Durante and use a guest band idea, the bands being bought in three-week sequences. Program will audition again this week without Ellington.

Ellington has already lined up a series of one-night bookings for next month and into February, eliminating him as a fixture. Welles is said to be scheduled for another South American trip soon.

### Agency's Yule Bonus

Hollywood, Dec. 14.

Employees of Foote, Cone & Belding agency will be given a holiday bonus amounting to 8.1% of their annual salaries. First agency on the Coast to trot out their gift horse.

# Your Best Salesman In All Markets—Present and Future



To Be Published Late In December

NEW YORK 19, 154 W. 46th St. HOLLYWOOD 28, 1708 N. Vine St. CHICAGO 1, 54 W. Randolph St. LONDON 8 St. Martin's Pl.

Long range predictions of what the post-war era will bring in television, FM, facsimile, and standard broadcasting were made before the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee last Friday (10) by O. B. Hansen, chief engineer and vice president of NBC; and F. K. Jett, chief engineer of FCC.

Highlights of their testimony before the committee, which is conducting hearings on the Wheeler bill to amend the Federal Communications Act:

1. Hansen said that, if present wavelength allocations are left undisturbed by FCC, testimony unlikely, there will be at least 1,600 television stations and 25,000,000 television receivers in service within 10 years.

2. Within two years of the Armistice, Hansen predicted as "probable" a television network stretching from Washington to Boston, and similar regional networks entering in such centers as Chicago, Los Angeles and Princeton. He forecast coast-to-coast television nets in operation a decade after the war.

3. He said television "would become the dominant service" and that FM will eventually displace most standard wave broadcasting.

4. Jett predicted a "very rapid growth" of television, FM and facsimile after the war, and said that within a few years audiences in the urban centers will be decreasing to a considerable portion of their time to entertainment.

5. Jett hinted that radio circuits may largely displace wire circuits in the future, and that he said there was no reason why a radio network could not compete with the telephone in handling telephone and telegraph messages, and simultaneously carry standard electric and radio messages.

Jett went into the telephone line to say that, in the future, long distance calls will be dialed on the same manner as local calls at present.

(Continued on page 28)

## CBS After 15-Minute Opposite-Benny Feature To Follow Wm. Shirer

With William L. Shirer in the 7-15 (EWT) slot opposite the Benny show on Sunday night, CBS is reportedly making a frame search for a 15-minute feature sufficiently different from the Benny formula to attract the audience who don't come for the Benny line of chatter, to fill out the 7-15-7:30 time.

CBS programming department has ordered all program managers to be on the lookout for likely material. Nothing that even faintly resembles an idea has been turned up as yet.

## WISHING WILL MAKE IT SO—ASK WINCHELL

Insiders are still trying to figure the angle on Walter Winchell's crack on his Sunday night (12) broadcast about the weekend end wave that hit New York and the northeast. The columnist reported the weather item and then commented to the effect that he would like to be at the Rosny-Plaza in Florida with other lucky individuals during the auto-racing blizzard.

Gimmick is that Winchell broadcast from Miami; where he has been vacationing for the past several weeks. Understood that network official spotted the crack when Winchell's script read "New York is after considerable discussion, decided to let the item stand."



## War Plants Nix Swing Shift Show If Sold By Blue to Rival Industry

The Blue sales staff has been huddling with several prospective sponsors for the "Swing Shift" program, which the web airs on a coast-to-coast hookup in collaboration with the Securus Theatre and the N. Y. Post. All that is known about the interested advertisers is that they manufacture consumer goods. The show, piped into war plants in the east, employing 1,000,000 workers, comes from 1940. Starting on a morning spot for Friday evening (10:30-11) beginning this week (17). Deals with the war plant executives indicate that while they would have no objection to carrying the sponsorship show with consumers goods commercials, there would be considerable opposition if the program were backed by a rival heavy industry producer.

## RCA's 9-Month Net \$7,435,025

While usual year-end writeoffs and adjustments will come in the fourth quarter, financial quarters anticipate \$600,000 slightly more earnings per common share in 1943. Radio City, New York, America. Company reported \$7,435,025 profit for the first three quarters or about 86¢ per share. Operating costs of broadcasting units and manufacturing are reported running considerably ahead of 1942. Actually the RCA manufacturing division is operating at a loss in turning out communications equipment—transmitters, receivers and similar electronic devices, bulk of which is for the government.

Financial reports during the year give no breakdown of operations by various subsidiaries, but National Broadcasting Co. time sales point to a gain of about 15% in net revenue over 1942. The NBC is the largest revenue producer of RCA's subsidiaries. The gross income from NBC received by the parent corporation last year amounted to \$25,613,910. However, a portion of this came from the Networks, which was paid for \$8,000,000 cash this year. Just how this will figure in the final quarterly statement of RCA has not been revealed thus far, but believed likely that it has been added to working capital.

## BROWN RESIGNS NBC FOR RCA VICTOR POST

Charles R. Brown has resigned directorship of NBC advertising, program and research to become advertising director of the RCA Victor Division. Brown will be responsible for coordinating the advertising for the various Victor products and of the three ad agencies which are the company.

The agencies are J. Walter Thompson, which handles "What's New" on behalf of Victor and Bluebird records and the International Division of Ruthrauff & Ryan for radio, phonograph and television equipment and Kay-Noyes & Eshard for radio, phonograph and special electronic and radio apparatus.

## CIAA Reaps Back From So. Amer. Radio Parley

Wilfred S. Roberts, head of the N. Y. division of the radio branch of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, returned last week to a radio conference with CIAA reps in Lima, Peru. Accompanying Roberts were John W. C. Givens, director of the radio division of the CIAA; Ray Binley, assistant to the director; and John Beag of the radio branch.

Conference was held from Nov. 29 to Dec. 4, at which reports of the various radio stations in the country and with the CIAA execs and suspect plans for the future.

## Build Finnish Station Washington, Dec. 14

New broadcast station is being built by the Finnish Broadcasting Commission at Marikhamm, with transmission scheduled to begin Jan. 1, according to word received here.

## Back in '34 New York

Editor, "Variety": It does not seem to me to be in keeping with "Variety's" long memory as its customary apostrophe for the past is to constantly refer to this new radio series. Philo's "Hall of Fame" is a completely new idea in radio.

The fact is the original "Hall of Fame" program appeared on the Red network of NBC in a coast-to-coast hookup during the year of 1934.

The sponsor was Lehn & Fink. The advertising agencies handled the program alternating from week to week, Ruthrauff & Ryan and the Lehn & Fink agencies.

The man who conceived the idea of the 1934 Radio "Hall of Fame" was Lehn & Fink's presy. Edward Paul. It was the first program I believe ever to pay a guest star of \$500 for one performance on one program.

The "Hall of Fame" ran for a year and a half on original radio, and it was artistically a great success. The program was dropped off the air at the end of 1934.

In speaking of Radio's "Hall of Fame" as the original "Hall of Fame" you ought to give credit where credit is due. The chap who first started the idea was not on the air as Ed Paul.

Yours very truly,  
Lennin & Mitchell, Inc.

Lennin & Mitchell, Inc.

## Dual 'Carmen' Role On 'Radio Hall of Fame' As Muriel Smith Takes III

Deems Taylor, announcer on the Philo Radio Hall of Fame broadcast Sunday (12) left the visible audience to the original Carmen, a secret agent the dual singing acting played by two people in the radio industry—Miss Muriel Smith. Muriel Smith, the original prima, simply spoke her lines and understood the lyrics. Miss Edna Matthews, the baritone, sang the role. Doctor ordered Miss Smith to be promoted to her cold, but she insisted on at least doing the dramatic role.

The compromise was producer De Engelbach's idea, when he heard that Miss Rahn, who is the alternate prima, to the original Bill Rose stage production, was miffed about something and refused to substitute. Miss Rahn is leaving the Rose production, and wasn't concerned with the emergency.

Miss Matthews is a chorister in "Carmen Jones" but will probably now be promoted to general understudy on the strength of her last-minute pinchhitting.

## COLUMBIA CITATION FOR ED. TOMLINSON

Columbia University will present radio commentator Edward Tomlinson, specialist in Inter-American Affairs, with the Blue Network's gold medal, known as the Maria Moros Cabot prize, for distinguished service in advancing international friendship in the Western Hemisphere. Award will be made today (Wed.).

Tomlinson has flown over 250,000 miles across S. A. during the past 20 years. He's heard on "News and Comments on the Other Americas" program started in 1931.

## R.&R. Ups Its Capital Stock to 30,000 Shares

Albany, Dec. 14. Ruthrauff & Ryan, New York, has increased its capital stock from 15,000 to 30,000 shares on the advice of Attorney Henry W. Steinpfeiffer, the papers with the Secretary of State here.

Warwick & Legler, Inc., New York, also recently changed its capital stock from 20,000 shares to 40,000 shares, valued at \$26,000. Of the latter, 1,000 are priced at \$100 par value, and 39,000 are at \$100 par value. O'Brien, Driscoll & Raftery were filing attorneys.

## Gerald Cook to Huddle With BBC Execs in Eng.

Gerald Cook, BBC representative in San Francisco, is currently in New York on his way to England for a periodic confab with homeoffice officials.

He expects to return to the U. S. in about six weeks.

## Don Lee Chain Sets Nov. Peak

Hollywood, Dec. 14. Don Lee coast east unit of newly business during November not only soared far, beyond its own former peak, but is believed to have set a new record for any regional chain. Commercial big aggregated seven figures in a matter of hours, including that spread over, the full Mutual-Don Lee chain.

New accounts listed by Sydney Gaynor, sales chief for the net, comprised the Jack Benny repeat for General Foods; "Point of View" for Union Oil; "What's Name of That Song" for 42; "Good Will" for Clark Gable; "Treaty of Song" for Conti Products; "Building Drummond" for 42; "Prodigious" for Southern Pacific; "Fulton-Crusler for Metro; Ray Dady for Gore Laboratories; "First Aid" for Campbell and newspaper series for L.B. hair oil.

## DUMONT SWITCHING TO LARGER STUDIOS

Dumont television broadcasting activities will transfer from its current Madison avenue, N. Y., penthouse studio to a larger layout on a lower floor of the building sometime next month. Moving operations already have started, but actual date of transfer is dependent on material priorities, labor supply, problems, etc.

New studios will occupy more than 1,000 square feet of floor space, giving the Dumont station, W2XWB, about twice the limits of the present broadcasting quarters. Immediate program improvements will follow occupancy of the new space, according to Dumont's Sam Cuff, who explained several sets can be prepared and changed in advance and time enabling instant camera switches and elimination of blank screen when occasionally has interfered with smooth continuity on Dumont live tele shows in the past.

## Cleve. Protests Restore 'Morgan Man' Program

Cleveland, Dec. 14. Hal Morgan's "Morgan Man" program, a non-sponsored musical matinee, was pushed aside at WGAR for sponsored Santa Clara annual gift letter-reading broadcasts. But 982 "Morgan Man" fans protested and sent Carl George, director of operation, a nine-foot petition asking for Morgan's return to the air.

So Morgan was returned on Saturday afternoons from 3:30 to 4 and will continue to air on Wed. nights. Wilson program. He is also appearing from 8:10 p.m. and from 2 to 3 p.m. on Blue Angel.

With the new morning radio hour he'll be able to meet herself on the way to and from work.

## FRANK KINGDON

'Commentators and Controversy'

## VARIETY'S

Post-War Show Business

Number

(38th Anniversary Edition)

## Setting Radio Slang Straight

On the grounds that radio as an industry has reached full maturity, and of necessity has coined its own language in the growing process, A. E. Hooton, Inc., has launched a radio slang dictionary, for writers, scripters and others in order to set people straight on correct terminology. The organization, in providing the service, feels that it can render a valuable service to the industry by setting the record straight and at the same time provide a more universal understanding of phrases that are peculiarly radio's own. Jean King, formerly of Mutual-Sample-Hummert, has joined the organization to direct the service.

In addition, Hooton, in collaboration with Matthew Chappell, technical editor of the "Radio Age," has compiled a list of radio terms, which have been incorporated into a book, "How to Measure Radio Audiences," being published next month by Stephen Day.

## Inside Stuff—Radio

Novel presentation of shows packaged in Hollywood by Alan Robb at NBC, for inspection by agency heads and time buyers, has gone out in the mails. Conceived by Frank Ford, Coast sales promotion manager for the network, collection of prospectus, has been procured with second-album effect, each slit containing the printed case history of the program embellished with multi-colored art, and cover choice title of NBC's Program Parade and similar outstanding radio programs. "Confessions," "Carvel Wells," "Across the Threshold," "The Gallant Heart" and "A Song Is Born."

WOR's (N. Y.) sales department reveals that 65 of the station's advertisers last week have buying orders from four to 12 consecutive years. Big buyers (Whole Wheat read) and Paton Products (Golden Bells Honey) top the list. They have both been sponsoring the same show, Alfred McCann's Pure Food Hour, for the past 18 years. Dale's Pineapple Juice and the Richmond Chase Co. (Heart's Delight Canned Fruit) are in the 15-year class. R. H. May & Co. has been an advertiser for 13 years and the Maryland Pharmaceutical Co. a 12-year advertiser.

A two-column ad placed by CBS for WDBJ, Roanoke, came out second in a recent study of advertiser leadership made by the Advertising Research Foundation, Inc., N. Y., in the Roanoke World-News. According to the A.R.F., the ad attracted 38% of the men readers and 52% of the women. It was one of the series prepared by CBS to plug sponsored web shows. The ad was topped only by a Lucky Strike spread which stopped 60% of the men and 64% of the women.

WINS becomes the first New York station to scratch time distinction under a new rate card, effective Jan. 1, which has just been released. The station's new 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. slot will be sold at a 10% discount, has inau urated a dollar volume discount policy, also a new departure for WINS.

Hourly rate quoted in new rate ranges from \$300, for 30 weeks, to \$240 for 52 weeks, 10% discounts are quoted.

So that eager audiences won't be forced to wait for television to find out what their favorite radio productions look like "in the flesh," Life magazine is preparing to launch a pictorial series on outstanding newsworthy radio programs. The first in the series will be devoted to the Philco-Variety "Hall of Fame" program for coverage and "Inner Sanctum" also is reported under consideration for Life candid camera treatment.

## Wash. State Educators Map Utilization Of CBS' 'School of Air'

Washington state educational leaders are voting as a Board of Educational Councilors with KIRO, local CBS outlet, in utilizing CBS' "School of the Air," one of the other public service programs carried by KIRO.

Consent of the board is made up of Mrs. Pearl Wananmaker, State Superintendent of Schools; Samuel Fleming, assistant superintendent of schools; Arthur Marx, director, Washington Education Association Journal; Mrs. Dale J. Macle, President of the Seattle Radio Council; Father E. J. McFadden, Seattle Archdiocese; and Dr. J. M. Gilmour, President of the Seattle Council of Parent-Teachers Association. The board is also considering KIRO executives discussed plans with the board, the execs being James E. Stone, assistant manager; Kenneth Yeend, educational director; Majory Carter, educational director; and George W. Wilson, manager. Normal Runions, special event chief, and Marjorie de Garmis, publicity director.

## CBS' 'SCHOOL OF AIR' THRU XMAS HOLIDAYS

The CBS educational feature, "American School of the Air," will continue through the Christmas holidays this year for the first time in its 14-year radio career. Ten programs, including musical and dramatic presentations, have been announced for the period between Dec. 20 and Jan. 1.

Broadcast time for the half-hour shows are 8:15 a.m. with repeats at 1:30 p.m. Network's announced number of requests promised number from usual Christmas vacation policy.

Longview, Tex.—Gordon E. Guest has been named to the announcing staff of KERO. From the latter station comes Bernice Johnson to take over duties at the station's new transmitter building.

## Eversharp Now Plans 'Best Acts Of Wk.' Program

Eversharp, currently represented on the air by the Phil Baker-Take It or Leave It Sunday night CBS quiz show, will sponsor another half-hour weekly network program, xi the "Best Acts of the Week" on Thursdays, 7:30-8 slot reportedly set.

Exact format of show hasn't been decided upon as yet, but reportedly it will feature the best performances of the preceding week. Whether or not it will be a transcription of the best acts also undecided as yet. Blow is the agency.

## COUGH DROP SPONSOR FOR N. Y. HOOP GAMES

Coca-Cola, Brooklyn cough drop manufacturer, has signed to sponsor a regularly scheduled college basketball games from the Square Garden, N. Y., through the next season over WINS. Only second game of the season for doctors' leaders will be aired.

Don Duply and Stan Lonnax will handle the show. The first game will be on last night (14) with the CCNY-Oklahoma Aggies game.

## Radio Educ'n Institute Set for Next May 8-8

Columbus, O., Dec. 14. The 15th annual meeting of the Institute for Education by Radio will be held May 6-8 at the Dostler-Wallace Hotel, Columbus, by Ohio State University. Closing date for entries for the exhibition and citation of educational programs is March 15.

J. Keith Tyler is director of the Institute.

# WXYZ, Detroit, Picks Up Bomber Crew For 2-Way Broadcast With War Plants

Detroit, Dec. 14. Scoring a best here, Station WXYZ provided a dramatic broadcast of both ends of the war effort in the broadcast of a two-way radio conversation between the RKO Radio Rumber and Detroit's war workers.

With the Detroit press paying plenty of attention to the new broadcast 'The Men on the Fighting Line to the Men on the Production Line,' the station picked up the crew of the famous bomber flying over Detroit in conversation with war workers assembled at the City Hall and broadcast the highly dramatic incident to the city and state via the Michigan Network.

One of the most unusual qualities of the broadcast was that it was picked up in between 40 and 50 war plants here and sent over the public address systems of all the plants. Another unusual thing was that the RKO Radio System also tuned in on the broadcast and played it through its outlets in scores of restaurants, bars and other spots.

At the huge Willow Run plant, which had a direct tie to the RKO Radio Rumber since it is pouring out similar huge bombers, a cutting was made and a rebroadcast made as a morale stimulus in the night and dawn patrol shifts in the war plant.

The arrangements for the broadcast from the famous bomber in the 10 decorated soldiers of the 8th Air Force, 100 survivors of the B-24 bomber in combat in the Pacific area—were made between officials of the station and Lieut. J. H. Lloyd, commander of the 8th Air Force, who formerly used to be a WJZ account executive.

The broadcast also was another milestone since it was the 40th anniversary of the first airplane flight at Kitty Hawk in a state which has twenty air-minded industries.

Despite the possibilities of slip-up in broadcast, the station went on as usual. When the air workers on the ground said, 'Come in, RKO Radio Rumber,' at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, when the broadcast was scheduled to start, the plane was directly over the City Hall with the ground crew picking it up.

The broadcast also was made through a special arrangement of RKO and saw both Army and WXYZ equipment interchanged for the more linking of fighting men and war workers.

## JACK PEGLER LEAVING F-C-B AFTER 16 YRS.

Jack A. Pegler, for 16 years associated with Lord & Thomas and v.p. of its year-old successor, Foot, Cone & Belding, is leaving that firm as of Jan. 1, 1944, after which he has been chosen as exec.

During his 16-year tenure with the agencies, Pegler has been in charge of the advertising accounts of RKO Radio Pictures, RKO Theatres and Walt Disney Productions, among others. Another during the period he had also been account executive for Paramount Pictures, United Artists, N. Y. Radio City Music Hall and other major film and theatre companies.

Pegler will vacate on his ranch in Arizona before announcing his future plans.

## Goodyear Show Neither Comedy Nor Drama Yet

Hollywood, Dec. 14. Goodyear show, scheduled for a February take off over CBS in the spot opposite *Edwards*, may hit the air as a comedy opera if Tom Harrington, radio director of Young Republic, is unable to find his dealings with several top dramatic names. Originally the pitch was for a radio drama, but now, Young, but various factors have pre-

vented against final accord. Harrington returns next week but heads back to the show after the holidays to get the show in frame.

## Advertising Agency Showmanship

Is Surveyed in the

## 38th Anniversary Number

Of

## VARIETY

The Post-War Show

Business Edition

## Hull, Trammell Set NBC Series

On State Dept.

Washington, Dec.

The Dept. of State, in a move to acquaint Americans with its work and objectives, has arranged a series of four half-hour broadcasts over the NBC. Details were worked out at an hour conference at the State Dept. in Washington on Wednesday.

By Secretary Cordell Hull, Niles Trammell, NBC presy, and William B. Miller, chief of the network's public service division, Saturday on Saturday, Jan. 8, from 7-7:30 p.m.

Tentative lineup for the program include most of the State Dept.'s jokers. First session, explaining the year's work that went into the political planning for the recent Moscow-Cairo-Tehran conference, will be highlighted by the appearance of Edward Stettinius, Assistant Secretary of State, Leo Pavlosky, special assistant to the Secretary of State, and James G. Duggan, special advisor to Hull.

The second stanza will explain the plan for reorganization of the dept. with Stettinius, who came in as a result of this reorganization. Delineating the details, Asst. Secretary of State G. Howland Smith will explain the administration of the dept. while John G. Winant, U. S. Ambassador to Great Britain, describes the effects of the reorganization on the foreign divisions.

Post-war economic planning, as contrasted to the political planning discussed on the first program, will be explained later in the series. Secretary of State Cordell Hull, and Dean Acheson and Harry C. Hawkins, member of the Board of Economic Operations and chief of the Division of Commercial Policy and Agreements, will be featured.

Howland Smith, U. S. Ambassador to Mexico, will also fill in the foreign reactions and plans on this series.

The final program will feature Hull, who will discuss U. S. foreign policy in the post-war period. The program will be a two-part series—two Senators and two representatives; one from each party. Democratic and Republican.

Program format will be of the same discussion type as the NBC's *What We Fight For* (7-7:30 p.m.), which Harkness, NBC Washington commentator, will act as interlocutor.

## Barnett Vice M'Kaye On Lux Show Adaptations

Hollywood, Dec. 14.

Production reins on the *Delimitation* of the *Radio Theatre* show part (from Sanford Barnet to Fred McCay, longtime radio actor, after the first broadcast).

Barnett will succeed George Wells, who leaves in two weeks to report on the radio after nine years' adaptations for the show.

The radio industry is cognizant of the development of a new school of technicians, scripters, announcers, program directors and other talent necessary in production of air shows by the existing G.I. set-up. Utilizing the conscripted men from radio to train servicemen in the various and devious arts of radio for camp and public consumption, the Government finds itself in the peculiar role of providing the industry with well-trained men for the post-war era.

The thousands of G.I.s engaged both in Army and Navy public relations and special services via the hundreds of radio programs set up at the military posts both here and abroad are currently being trained in all the intricacies of radio technique. In the process, they're likewise acquiring a fondness for the new baby, with a full intent to step into some phase of the industry when they're mustered out. And with everything going to a continued rate of commercial radio growth that could easily absorb these new trainees, a most comprised of limited servicemen—engaged in processing new soldiers—it has set up a radio program made up of their own talent, both from the technical and professional aspects, which broadcasts every Thursday, 10:30 a.m. As in the case of hundreds of other G.I.-sponsored programs, it's already been a success in production of radio to warrant broadcasts over a state-wide cooperative network of stations, all of which pay their own fee. These men, operating a group of over a dozen stations, are giving out not just the air-line, but are also playing the line charges in order to bring the program to their listeners.

As to the commercial network, however, the G.I. programs are designed primarily to hype home-front morale, and to help pay their own bills. War Bond drives, for example, are being run by the new Cumberland Army Reserve, which has a *Penetration Parade* program was cited for leading \$50,000 into Uncle Sam's war chest and through its production of original radio scripts chalked up a remarkable record for WAC and War Reliance Corps.

Dozens of subjects, such as safeguarding military information, use of the radio in the home, and the minutes for Victory shows by men who, in getting their first taste of scripting, are giving interesting, and, in directing, have won brassard commendation and are now bent on post-war radio careers.

One of the most interesting of these is the *Penetration Parade*, which is a series of radio programs, each of which is a dramatization of a real-life incident. The program is being produced by the Cumberland Army Reserve, which has a *Penetration Parade* program was cited for leading \$50,000 into Uncle Sam's war chest and through its production of original radio scripts chalked up a remarkable record for WAC and War Reliance Corps.

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# Plenty of Christmas Spirit on Tap In Four Networks Shows Next Wk.

## FRED ALLEN

Makes

## 'The Confession'

One of the More Sprightly

Literal Features of

## VARIETY's

38th Anniversary Number

(Cypert the Post-War Show

Business Edition)

## Mutual Solves

Liquor Travel

Pep Talk' Snag

Mutual has solved, to the apparent

satisfaction of at least two of its

clients, the liquor and transportation

problems by inaugurating salesman-

dealer rallies with closed circuit con-

ferences, thus eliminating the need

for conventions.

Two weeks ago Schenley dealers,

Staten, etc., assembled in the various

MBS outlet studios around the

country for a 15-minute closed circuit

plug-in to hear MBS presy

Miller McClellan and others in con-

nection with Mutual's recent acquisition

of the Xavier Cugat show from the

Blue.

Idea was so successful that a similar

stunt will be tried Friday 18th, in

connection with the Cedric Belfrage

Employers Group Sunday show going

full network; McClellan will again speak.

## U. S. Gullibles Fall For

MBS Show's 'Rib' Ads

On Dr. Quack's Tablets

Detroit, Dec. 14.

CKLW's comics can't figure out

just how gullible the public is.

Joe Gentile and Ralph Bine, the

Windsor, Ont., station's ribbers, who

recently moved on a Mutual network

at 11:30 a.m., have been following

their forle of kidding post-radio

radio advertising.

The pair dreamed up Dr. Quack's

Slim Jim Reducing Tablets for a

series of gags they have been running

off. Their humor was plenty broad

and they took their dream-world

product radio to a terrible level.

It didn't stop the wishtful thinkers

from the fat populace of the U. S.

Their gags have put a special clerk

on the job of pulling back the dollars

that the gullibles are spending in

for Dr. Quack's Slim Jim Reducing

Tablets.

Christmas favoring to commercial and sustaining air shows on all stations, the country's country country week will be climaxed as usual with special religious, servicemen's and feature programs on major networks.

The annual CBS carol service will be in the holiday Friday at midnight with an hour program by the network's concert choir, a mixed chorus, organ and Eileen Farrell. Also on the musical CBS calendar is a program at 2:30 Christmas afternoon with the Collegiate Chorus singing English, Russian and American carols.

An ambitious three-hour traveling program has been set by NBC for Christmas afternoon at 1 p.m. Presy Niles Trammell will be heard emphasizing as the theme of show the domesticity of life in the country. He is fighting. Robert St. John will be the tourist in charge as the program, *Travelers*, Bob Hope, Judy Garland, Lena Horne and other stars; Henry Busby's orch and Robert Young, also will be heard.

The Kate Smith show on the same network Christmas Eve will feature *Travelers*, Bob Hope, Judy Garland, Lena Horne and other stars; Henry Busby's orch and Robert Young, also will be heard.

To DX Eighth Air Force, Jack Benny, Bob Hope, Judy Garland, Lena Horne and other stars; Henry Busby's orch and Robert Young, also will be heard.

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The Kate

# Radio Spielers, Exec Editors Advocate International Post-War OWI Setup

ing up of an international office of War Information to figure adequate flow of news of important allied confats and war developments was suggested last Thursday (9) by radio commentators and executive editors of UP, AP, INS and Reuters during a forum directed at radio via WIN. N. Y. titled "Are We Getting Enough News?" The answer to the question was generally "No and reaching it too late at that to effectively combat Axis propaganda."

Participants included: Charles Honce, AP general news manager; Phil Newsum, radio news manager; U. P. C. Oestreich, radio news manager; Walter A. Cole, joint news director of Reuters, London; and Ed Walton, Paul Sullivan and George Hamilton Condit, Jr., of WIN.

Stanza's highlight was the cross-examination of Cole concerning Reuters' beat on the Cairo conference. Cole defended Reuters on the grounds that once the news was circulated in the neutral city, London, it was known and passed forth by Axis radio. It was perfectly on the up and up for Reuters to take the story worldwide. Cole disclosed that Reuters was beaten by more than 24 hours on the news of the invasion of Italy, implying that the agency has had its tough as well as lucky breaks.

Regarding the regular topic, Cole pointed out that the news is sufficient, but too dependent on cable, and too late. Newsum was more cautious, indicating that judgment as to what can be released should be left to the allied military leaders. Oestreich blamed the poor coverage on the failure of the U. S. to have a top-notch newsmen with the delegation of news press retaining the right to cut too many topics which were considered which should not be censored.

Ed Walton, moderator of the forum, opined that newsmen were getting the short end of war news coverage, that Sullivan asked for more news for purely selfish reasons, explaining that, as members of the newscast, the reporters reported news as they felt enough, since the more they get the more highly they are regarded.

**Tired' T. Dorsey Off 'Basin Street' Show; Connie Boswell In**

Entering a place that he was 'just plain tired,' Tommy Dorsey withdrew yesterday (14) from his scheduled guest spot on 'Basin Street' Sunday night (19) only a few minutes before the agency staffers and radio directors were about to huddle on music cues, script, etc., for the coach leader's part in the show. According to Lennen & Mitchell, agency handling the account, Dorsey had been asked to a contract explained, and did not feel physically able to live up to it.

The Wells, of the agency, did some fast phoning after hearing from Dorsey's manager, in landing Connie Boswell as 'Basin Street' guest for the spot vacated by the band leader.

**Name Herbert Director In CBS Program Dept.**

Charles Herbert, formerly an assistant director in the CBS operations department, appointed a director in the network's program department. He'll handle the 'with Dunn' series.

He recently was given a medical discharge by the Army.

**Fulton Lewis Escapes Injury In Hotel Fire**

Fulton Lewis, Jr. hero on one of the nation's favorite radio series, nearly burned out of his wits by a fire broke out in the adjoining room occupied by his assistant, Fred Meyer. Police were told by Mutual commentator that the circumstances looked mighty suspicious, but that he had never been the target of this sort of thing.

Morrison suffered slight burns and Lewis went back to his smushing.

## Premieres (Dec. 15-26)

**'Stars For A Night'**, guest stars: Duke and Jeanette MacDonald and Paul Robeson. 10:00 P. M. Wednesday. **'The Big City'**, Adm. Hays. 10:00 P. M. Wednesday. **'Your Army's Secret'**, Adm. Hays. 10:00 P. M. Wednesday. **'The Big City'**, Adm. Hays. 10:00 P. M. Wednesday. **'The Big City'**, Adm. Hays. 10:00 P. M. Wednesday.

**'Special Assignment'**, featuring NBC commentators to read a variety of the front. 8:45-10:00 a.m. Monday through Friday. NBC-WEAF, assisting.

## Radio Engineers In Post-War Aim

The Institute of Radio Engineers, after 31 years of existence behind the scenes made its first pitch for publicity yesterday (14) with a luncheon for the press at the Commodore Hotel, N. Y. Themed was the organization's desire to acquire the public activities in view of the tremendous developments expected in post-war fields of tele and other radio.

J. R. Poppo, recently appointed chief engineer for IRE and Dr. B. E. Shuchman, chief of the 1944 winter meeting scheduled at the Commodore Jan. 28-29, came through with advance info on the post-war confab which they said would be agreed for ready understanding by general public even though many connected engineering problems.

R. B. Baker, of General Electric, chairman of the Radio Technical Planning Board, and several of his panelists will address the newsmen on problems facing the recently organized board which is expected to have activities in view of the war industrial program. E. J. Jett, FCC chief engineer, also is down for appearance along with other outstanding radio figures.

IRE composed of engineers from all over and including key technical men in major networks and allied radio projects has a worldwide membership of 11,000, of which 10,000 live and work in the U. S. Dr. L. P. Wheeler, Washington, D. C., has been elected to the office at the January session.

## Cashman Scouts Talent On Coast For Luckies

Hollywood, Dec. 14. Ed Cashman, radio exec of the Foote, Cone & Belding agency, is in town to scout talent for George Washington Hill and speaking to all his waking hours talking to agents and auditioning talent. His cup is set for comedy and singing personnel who would like to see the American Tobacco 'Luckies' lineup of airshows.

A serious consideration is Harry Forrest, who recently left Harry James' band to venture forth with a feature band. Other talent is being searched out by Cashman in the music, film studies and night spots and the late Joe Backus for Hill's inspection should be an inspiring one.

## O'Hara Cops Trophy As Top Baseball Gabber

St. Louis, Dec. 14. John O'Hara, sports gabber at KWK, the nation's top radio personality, won the Mutual Sports week ending the Sporting News annual trophy as the top live talk gabber in 1943. The trophy was named by Ed Brands, editor of the national baseball publication, at the Mutual Sports week ending the Sporting News annual trophy as the top live talk gabber in 1943. The trophy was named by Ed Brands, editor of the national baseball publication, at the Mutual Sports week ending the Sporting News annual trophy as the top live talk gabber in 1943.

O'Hara has been handling the Mutual Sports stuff for the past 12 years. He announced the 1929 world's series for NBC. He also announced the 1939 world's series for Paramount Newsreels.

## Heine Joins Thompson Agency As Wash. Rep

John Heine, formerly program director of WTOP, Washington, and Ed Barry and Thompson agency as Washington program representative.

He'll handle the Raymond Clapper show and set Capitol liaison on the 'What's New' and Owens-Illinois programs.

## Treasury Sets 52 E. T. Shows For Bond Drive

Washington, Dec. 14. A series of 52 transcription programs, first series has been prepared by the Treasury Dept. and will be available to stations throughout the country on a local sponsorship basis, excepting to NBC which cooperated in the program.

In addition to 26 transcriptions of 15-minute shows modeled along Treasury Star Parade, news and 26 five-minute shows, several spot announcements also will be furnished and there, too, are sets for sponsorship.

Vincent F. Callahan, director of radio, news and advertising in the Treasury's War Finance division, worked up the plan in conjunction with the NAB organization.

## FM Stations In Comm'l Switch

Chicago, Dec. 14. FM Broadcasting, Inc., meeting held here last week at the Drake Hotel brought out the fact that most of the FM stations throughout the country have switched from an experimental to a commercial basis.

A total of 64 executive representatives of 40 stations met the one-day meeting that took up the setting of a schedule for 1944 and the possible opening of an office in Washington during the coming year.

WFMJ, Milwaukee, organization, announced that a two-day annual convention would be held in New York City on Jan. 15-16. The meeting was appointed one to prepare a program for the FM stations and the FM organization and to draft a proposed code of ethics and practice for FM broadcasting.

Ray Maun, of Stromberg-Carlson, heads the former committee and broadcast in the Midwest Broadcasting, the latter.

## CIAA DX'S OVERSEAS PICKUPS TO LATIN AM.

Newest wrinkle in Latin American shortwaves through the Coordinator of Inter American Affairs, which is a week-five-minute spots of overseas pickups, done by Latin American commentators, Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Juan Turo broadcast from Algiers over the OWI circuit while on Tuesday and Thursday, Arturo Despujols is heard from London. CIAA then transmits the broadcast and program to the shortwave via 10 SW stations.

Program started Oct. 25, but CIAA had to wait because the Latin American results were being good, according to the agency, because the Latin American pickups and relay to the U. S. country in the future.

## Reber a Grandpa

It's now 'randpa' Reber instead of 'father' after the Dr. Walter Winchell radio show, which is now John U. Reber, in charge of radio, becoming a grandfather on Monday. He's elected his grandfather to give birth to a son in Lenox Hill hospital, N. Y.

## Lever Bros. Tuesday Broadcast

Lever Bros. has taken an unusual step in advertising shows sponsored by different companies, in launching a national campaign to build up Tuesday night as comedy night.

In the plan to plugging in the comedy and Allen stanza for Swan Soap, which is heard 9 p.m. (EST) via CBS, the ad paid for by Lever features Johnson's Wax, Fibber McGee and Molly, and the WGN comedy show, which is heard 10:30-11 p.m. (EST) via CBS, the ad is appearing Tuesdays for the next few weeks.

Young & Rubicam is the Lever Bros. agency.

## From the Production Centres

### IN NEW YORK CITY:

Paul F. Lazareff, of Columbia University; Philip H. Cohen, of the OWI; Louis Goldstein of WMCA; Edgar Kobak, of Blue Line; Louis Brown of CBS; Morris Novik, of WNYC; and Miller McCintock, of Mutual, were among the speakers yesterday (Tuesday) at the radio session of the fourth annual Health Education conference.

Laurence Hammond, former War Manpower Commission radio director and a scripter-director, resigned as publicity rep of Bendis appear in the independent Woman and be reprinted by Reiter's Digest. Ed Blum, Blue script editor, also directs 'The Falcon' and 'Out of the Past' in the independent Woman and be reprinted by Reiter's Digest. Ed Blum, Blue script editor, also directs 'The Falcon' and 'Out of the Past' in the independent Woman and be reprinted by Reiter's Digest.

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● The biggest program in radio is the  
*Make Believe Ballroom* on WNEW

The pulse of New York reports that the  
*Ballroom delivers*, in New York alone,  
182,035,000 quarter hour *family impres-*  
*sions* each week.

No other program—network or local—  
enjoys so vast an audience in New York.

*P. S. Martin Block has just renewed  
with WNEW until 1947.*

**WNEW**  
NEW YORK

REPRESENTED BY JOHN BLAIR & COMPANY



**FRED ALLEN**  
With Portland Hoffa, Alan Reed, Eve  
erett, Sloane, Jack Smart, Betty  
Walker, Laurie Melcher, John J.  
Anthony, Henry Winkler, Eli  
Lo, Jack and the Dame, Al Goodman,  
and the Radio City Orchestra.  
Written: Fred Allen  
Director: Howard Bell  
10:30 P.m. Sun., 4:30 P.m.  
**TACACO**  
WABC-CBS, New York  
(Buchanan)

Cutting short his previously  
stated lay-off, Fred Allen  
turned Sunday night (12) to his 9:30-  
10 p.m. spot on CBS for Tacaco.  
Following the tradition of radio  
names, he opened the show with a  
few snatches about his lay-off and  
his troubles of getting the new show  
together. Thereafter the stanza was  
more or less in Allen's familiar style  
and excellent. The closing routine  
with his guest, Laurie Melcher,  
Wagnerian tenor of the Met, wound  
up the half-hour with an uproarious  
punch.

Minus John Brown, Charlie Cantor,  
and the Radio City Orchestra of  
his Mighty, Allen Act Players,  
Allen didn't have that normally suc-  
cessful portion of the program. The  
edition. It was missed, but Allen  
and Alan Reed's comedy lay-off  
Cantor, and is reportedly trying to  
bring necessary for the others.  
Allen, presumably he'll have that part  
of the stanza (or something reasonably  
close) back before long.

Otherwise, the chief need appears  
to be for the star and his writers to  
work smoothly into a large style  
groove. Portland Hoffa (Mrs. Allen)  
remains to add her characteristic bit  
as feeder for Allen. Reed is back  
with his Falstaff Operatic  
poetry; Al Goodman continues as  
conductor; and Eli, Lo, Jack and the  
Dame provide standard rhythmic  
vocals. As the intro spot on the opener,  
Allen did a sketch with guest John J.  
Anthony, along the lines of the lat-  
ter's "Good Will" hour program, but  
they played it straight.

But besides the untidy and likeable  
spoofing of Allen, the premier por-  
tion of the program on the style  
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**'RAYMOND SCOTT SHOW'**  
With Raymond Scott, Dorothy  
Collins vocalist.  
Written: Charles Monroe  
Director: Bill Brennan  
12:15 Mins., Mon. thru Fri., 4:45 p.m.  
Sustaining  
WABC-CBS, New York

Columbia has shifted the Raymond  
Scott combo from Thursdays (11:30-  
midnight) to the afternoon, Monday  
through Friday, quarter-hour slot  
previously filled by Perry Como. It's  
a smart replacement. For per-  
formers a smooth-working orch which  
is equally at home in jive, sweet or  
in the tricky Scott arrangements.

The preem Monday (13) featured  
the orch and vocalist Dorothy Collins  
in "My Heart Tells Me," and the orch  
alone in "Star dust" and the "42  
Stomp," the latter a novelty number  
delivered by the "Secret Seven,"  
but the holds herself back too much.  
The orch was guilty of no such re-

**'EASY ACES'**  
With M. Gordon Ace, Jane Ace, Mary  
Calkins, Gordon Ace, Anne Ace, Mary  
Calkins, Anne Ace, Arnold Moss,  
Irene Winslow, Ford Bond, Ken  
Christie, orch and chorus.  
Written: Goodman Ace  
12:30 P.m. Sun., 4:30 p.m.  
**ANACIN**  
WABC-CBS, New York  
(Buchanan)

After more than a decade, during  
which it has been one of the most  
comedy classic, "Easy Aces" has  
switched from its weekly half-hour  
format. The change is apparently  
part of a mild trend of commercial  
evening radio. "Amos 'n' Andy" and  
Mr. Kohn having also shifted from  
15-minute to 30-minute spots.

On the basis of Wednesday night's  
show, "Easy Aces" remains a  
gem of witty characterization and  
musical touches of hilarious  
dialog. However, it may take author-  
actor Goodman Ace a few weeks to  
adjust himself to the comparatively  
severe structural and  
content requirements of the half-  
hour format.

Besides having an orchestral music  
background instead of an organ, as  
formerly, the show now has novel  
touches. "Easy Aces" remains a  
gem of witty characterization and  
musical touches of hilarious  
dialog. However, it may take author-  
actor Goodman Ace a few weeks to  
adjust himself to the comparatively  
severe structural and  
content requirements of the half-  
hour format.

In addition to the regular Aigin-  
cine orchestra, the program has  
now co-catcher and high-hike an-  
nouncements for Old English ho-  
rads. **Hot.**

**'RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL ON THE AIR'**  
With Errol Raper, Orin Jensen,  
Fritz, Richard Lebert, (orch)  
Director: Arthur Austin  
30 Mins., Friday, 11:30 p.m.  
WEAF-NBC, New York

This program, a standard Sunday  
noon hour feature begun by WJZ-  
TV, and the Blue for 10 years un-  
til it was dropped in September,  
is back on the air, but over  
a new web, at the original time in  
an abbreviated form.

Unlike the original time, the new  
"Music Hall" does not plug the  
concerts on screen or stage presen-  
tations, but also unlike the original  
stanzas, the revived version will have  
little chance to develop any stable  
audience and widespread appeal  
that was enjoyed by the WJZ of-  
fering in the mid-day Sabbath spot.

Radio, which is a joint ef-  
fort of NBC program department  
and the theatre, is a solid half-hour  
of classic and semi-classic melody.  
Heard Friday (10), the Orin Raper  
and the Blue for 10 years un-  
til it was dropped in September,  
is back on the air, but over  
a new web, at the original time in  
an abbreviated form.

On the other hand, it was actually a  
plug for safety on home front jobs  
and a plea to minimize factory and  
industrial accidents.

**'ABE LINCOLN'S STORY'**  
With McKay Morris, Fritz Person,  
Chir Souder, Norman Gottschalk,  
Fred Howard, Melvin Maxwell,  
Irene Winslow, Ford Bond, Ken  
Christie, orch and chorus.  
Written: Goodman Ace  
12:30 P.m. Sun., 4:30 p.m.  
**ANACIN**  
WABC-CBS, New York  
(Buchanan)

The semi-divine treatment accorded  
Abraham Lincoln in most fiction  
and drama has been tossed aside in favor  
of a realistic, down-to-earth and con-  
fessionally realistic. The choice of  
material in the new series aired for  
The National Small Business  
Administration is also fortunate. The  
program is a semi-divine treatment  
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"Abe Lincoln's Story" is a serial-  
ization of the "Great Emancipator's"  
life, but each weekly installment  
has been tossed aside in favor of  
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## Follow-up Comment

"Philo's" Radio Hall of Fame, in its  
second time at last Sunday night  
(12) was not so much a review of  
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**'MRS. MINIVER'**  
With Judith Evelyn, Karl Swenson,  
Sarah Burton, Betty Jane Tyler,  
Alan Reed, Charles Monroe  
Director: John Dineen  
30 Mins., Fri., 11:30 p.m.  
WABC-CBS, New York

Following advantage of two charac-  
ters, Mrs. Miniver, who is a real  
woman, has succeeded through Fran-  
k Strutler's best-selling novel and  
subsequent KPM radio play, a most  
tremendous following among the  
radio audience. The play is a  
new serial, "Mrs. Miniver," which  
takes up where the book and film  
ended. Mrs. Miniver, who is a real  
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## remember November!

November was the month when advertisers used  
\$1,479,942 worth of Mutual time.  
November was the largest month in Mutual history;  
up 63% over the same month in 1942.

November helped Mutual score its best 11-month  
record ever, a total of \$12,238,206; up 40% over  
the same stretch a year ago.

The Mutual Broadcasting System

## The TEXAS RANGERS

**now**  
Selling  
**COLD**  
**TABLETS**  
ON  
**WEEI**  
Boston

also selling many  
other products on many  
other stations.

George E. Halley  
TEXAS RANGERS LIBRARY  
WELLS PRIGG & COMPANY, INC.  
NEW YORK, N. Y.



# ARG. RADIO: GOEBBELS-STYLE

## Uruguay Okays Tele Transmitter

Montevideo, Dec. 8. Increased interest in television has been noted in several parts of Latin America, with Uruguay this week granting a license for installation of the first transmitter south of the border.

Uruguayan outlet to be located in Montevideo gets call letters CX-5AG and will transmit on frequencies of 12 to 18 megacycles on the 2.50 meter wave band. Transmitter is now being constructed on a zeppelin-type antenna.

Experimental showings have been going on for some time in B. A., and the Instituto Experimental de Televisión recently gave public exhibitions to newsmen. B. A. operation, on which a great many pesos have been spent, is in charge of Eduardo E. Grünberg and has been operated simply from one studio to another with closeups of individuals being as large an image as can be carried.

### Caldwell in Can. Switch

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 14. S. W. "Sonnie" Caldwell, sales manager of CKWX, Vancouver, has left for Toronto to join the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. He'll manage CJBC, the former CBV station.

## Chile Gov't Sanctions 30-Year Franchise On Radio Service to Cuba

Washington, Dec. 14. Chilean Government has just given a 30-year concession to Press Wireless Chilena, to operate an international radio communication service between Chile and Cuba. Service to U. S. and other countries by way of New York is limited to government dispatches and news copy.

Unusual angle of the franchise is that Press Radio is required to install two transmitters within the first year, and a third within three years, for television service.

## CBC Pension Plan Gets Dominion Okay

Montreal, Dec. 14. A pension plan for Canadian Broadcasting Corp. employees and their dependents was approved by the Governor-in-Council at the third annual meeting of representatives of CBC's staff councils recently. It will be retroactive to April 1, and will be based on purchase of annuities, to provide for retirement at 65 for men and 60 for women.

The plan offers advantages similar to those accruing to civil servants under the government superannuation act.

## SCOPE ENLARGED FOR PROPAGANDA

Montevideo, Dec. 8. In a move which observers say is intended to further concentrate control of Argentine broadcasting in the hands of the Ramirez military administration, plans are under way to switch Argentina's radio-communications bureau from the post office to the new presidential department of press and propaganda, its reliability reported here.

The new propaganda setup, which has wide powers to regulate activities of the local radio industry, film, newspapers and magazines, and press correspondents, was announced several weeks ago, but its plan of activities is just becoming apparent. New bureau has already put on a number of radio programs itself and despite the fact that those military authorities previously in charge of radio are boiling, the new bureau is apparently determined to seize all of the power accorded it by the new decree and to take over radio lock, stock and barrel.

Since the June 4 revolution, radio-communications has been in charge of Major Carlos Humberto Farias, whose department has come under that of the post office, headed by (Continued on page 37)

## CBC Draws Fire of Progressive Party for Nixing Bracken Speech

Ottawa, Dec. 14. Sticking to policy of denying use of its facilities for airing anything of a political nature, Canadian Broadcasting Corp. drew a strong beef from Progressive Conservative party headquarters here for refusing to air speech of party leader John Bracken Friday night (10).

Script of proposed Bracken speech needed "substantial changes" before it could go on the air, said CBC officials, but Bracken refused to make the changes and said he would be content to let the press of the country deliver his address to the people of Canada.

Prog. Cons. publicity head Ross Brown termed it "an intolerable situation" when CBC officials undertook to censor the words of a political leader in Canada, adding that Bracken refused to be intimidated by anything that has happened with the CBC. Other party brasshats said: "We have no fear that the government or other political groups can be effectively sheltered by a state radio monopoly administered wholly by politicians of one single political group."

CBC is operated by a Board of Governors and comes under the Minister of National War Services, Major

Gen. L. R. LaFleche, member Liberal Government cabinet.

Before script was submitted to CBC, Brown told the corp. that anything Mr. Bracken would say would be political in the broadest sense of the word.

Brown was told by Dr. Augustin Frigon, acting CBC g.m., that strongest objections to the Bracken talk were criticisms of the Government and of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) party.

## Church 'Preferential' Clause Cues Aussie Comm'l Station Beefs

Sydney, Dec. 14. Most of the 100 commercially-operated radio stations in Australia have beefed against the recommendation by a Parliamentary committee, probing broadcasts for the Government, that preferential treatment be given churches in granting commercial licenses. Criticism has been pouring into officials from radio men who maintain granting of new licenses should be kept on an open market basis.

**ABBOTT and COSTELLO**

**HENRY ALDRICH**

**BING CROSBY**

**Etchings FOR THURSDAY**

Sharply etched in the listening habits of middle-western millions is the Thursday evening ritual of pipe, slippers, and WLW. We belong to this vast audience of twelve million and a goodly portion belongs in turn to us . . . as shown in Hooper's Mid-Winter Report, "The Listening Finger Points". The striking dominance of The Nation's Station in its four-state area . . . day and night . . . probably accounts for the fact that MORE ADVERTISERS SPEND MORE MONEY TO SELL MORE MERCHANDISE TO MORE PEOPLE ON WLW THAN ON ANY OTHER RADIO STATION IN THE WORLD

**WLW**

**FANNY BRICE and FRANK MORGAN**

# FCC Probers Stymied in Attempts To Prove Worthlessness of FBIS

Washington, Dec. 14. House Committee on Investigation and Oversight last week butted its head against a stone wall much of last week trying to prove that the Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service of FCC is a worthless agency.

During three days of hearings, Eugene Garey, chief counsel of the committee, and Harry Barker, chief investigator, quizzed witnesses and generally drew a blank. Although the pair, holdovers from the regime of Rep. Eugene E. Cox, had considerably toned down their handling of witnesses, they are still hammering away at the same points.

Committee had its worst day Friday (10) when the witness was Walter Gordon, head of the Foreign Service branch of OWI. Barker was questioning, tried to show that (1) FBIS was of little value to OWI; and (2) that Gordon's unit was, in effect, subsidizing press and radio by feeding them news gathered by various government agencies from all parts of the world.

"This material which is made available to the government, and thus is obtained for the benefit of the Government," said Gordon. "We have it anyhow, and it is not confidential. Therefore, we make it available to the news agencies. The Government does not pay out any extra money to get this news for news services. We merely make maximum use of the material."

"We are trying to give the taxpayers more for their money. We are trying to get more news to them. There is nothing about it."

Gordon, a former CBS news editor, said that FBIS monitoring of Nip broadcasts on the Pacific Coast, and of Nazi broadcasts on the Atlantic Coast, was extremely valuable to OWI. He said it provided information to the Overseas Branch for use in its shortwave propaganda messages to the Axis countries.

## Marvin Vice Butcher

At Ward Wheelock Agency.

Dick Marvin, until a year ago radio director at WFLA-Fox, has succeeded Blakey Butcher, resigned, in the radio department of the Ward Wheelock agency.

## Det. Station Restrained

On Bible Program Nix

Detroit, Dec. 14. An injunction restraining the Booth Broadcasting Co. operators of station WJIX here, from discontinuing a series of Bible study broadcasts sponsored by the Ferndale Church of Christ was signed last week by Circuit Judge Sherman D. Callender.

In his petition for an order against the station's operators, restraining the pastor of the church, said that a contract for a year's broadcasts had been entered into in May, 1940, and had been canceled by the station Nov. 27.

## Steve Ellis Looks Set

For Gillette As Dunphy Gabber Replacement

Steve Ellis, erstwhile "boy fight manager" of Paterson, N. J., and more recently sports announcer of WPAT there, survived the boxing broadcasts of Gillette and agency by Maxson. Don Dunphy who teams with Bill Corcoran for the Madison Square Garden boxing WOB-Mutual airshows, worked color and between rounds interludes with Ellis on Monday night's broadcast.

Although no definite decision was reached by Gillette the former WPAF gabber seems set for the St. Nick's spot on the basis of his transcribed efforts a week ago and his handling of this week's assignment.

## Boys Knoxville Stations

Louisville, Dec. 14. J. Lindsay Nunn, newspaper publisher and owner of WFLA, Lexington, and Texas stations, has purchased WBLB, Knoxville, Tenn. Station is third and most powerful in the Tennessee city, and operates on 250-watt power.

Purchase was made from the founder and owner, J. W. Birdwell. Price was said to be \$135,000.

## OWI to DX Larry Smith's

Commentary to Japs

San Francisco, Dec. 14. Far Eastern war commentaries of Larry Smith, former Tokyo bureau manager of International News Service, which are a Monday through Friday feature of NBC from San Francisco, is to be sent to the OWI short wave as a part of OWI propaganda service.

The program already is banned to the fighting men in the Southwest Pacific, but because he uses many references to present Japanese broadcasts, it's to be used as a means of letting the Nips know the situation in the Pacific battle areas.

## Follow-Up Comment

Continued from page 37

criticism, that radio can be reverent and admit and can be so to its vast audience worthwhile message. Following a simple introduction by Reynolds, the Archbishop praised the spirit and can be so to its vast audience worthwhile message. Following a simple introduction by Reynolds, the Archbishop praised the spirit and can be so to its vast audience worthwhile message.

An organ and choir background of the hymn, "Faith of Our Fathers," accompanied the reading of the creed which was read after a moment of silence. Nadine Connor sang "Ave Maria" to close the interlude.

M. J. Kallenborn, speaking from Admiral Halsey's Pacific headquarters over an NBC hookup Wednesday night, ventured the opinion that within a very few years after the United States military action in the Pacific, several of the United States Navy. He based his prediction on his knowledge of the Navy and Marine Corps have been co-located area where the Army, Navy and Marine Corps have been co-located area where the Army, Navy and Marine Corps have been co-located area.

Annamary Dickey, Met. Op. soprano and Waldorf-Astoria's Wednesday Room headliner, went over nicely Wednesday night on the "Great Moments of Music" show, emceed by Prof. John T. Frederick. Her book talk was supplemented by a sincere and simple for the application of the greatest power to the greatest number to win politics, which she said has governed China's internal and international policy.

On the basis of her own contributions, Miss Dickey can be said to be a part in her other accomplishments.

The First Piano Quartet broadcast a half-hour recital Saturday afternoon (13) from WPAF, with the male team providing a pleasing afternoon interlude with a varied program. Performance, as in past broadcasts, was top-notch throughout, with Adam Carner, Victor Paulson, John and Frank Mittle demonstrating their teamwork. Keyboardmaster Rachmaninoff's "Italian Poet" "Russian Rhapsody No. 2," Chopin's "Mingie Waltz" and Weber's "Johanna's Dance" were among seven favorites.

Miss Wei Tsing-Ming, wife of China's ambassador to the United States, discussed the highlights of her recently published autobiography, "My Revolutionary Years," Saturday (13) on the CBS "Of Men and Books" show, emceed by Prof. John T. Frederick. Her book talk was supplemented by a sincere and simple for the application of the greatest power to the greatest number to win politics, which she said has governed China's internal and international policy.

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Wm. Winton, former WLS hill-billy threesome, have joined WBBQ, Memphis.

Bill Thompson handling radio shows for the Red Cross and the Office of Civilian Defense. 4,000 students of 37 Ch. high school groups will be going to the broadcast Dec. 19 on the "Citizens of Tomorrow" show aired over WGN. WJZZ inaugurated a new series, "Fort Sheridan Presents," Dec. 11. Show features 50 soldiers and a WAC. Royce Fowler, former writer on the Bob Eason sports and staff writer at WGN, will be inducted into the Navy as an Ensign Jan. 1. -Gladys DeGoven, featured on the Kate Smith hour, is the star of a new thriller, "Manhutt," being aired over WBBQ-CBS Sunday (16) at 10:30 CWT. Program started Dec. 12 and is sponsored by the Atlas Paper Brewing Co. Hill Sanders back from a trip to England and resumed his WGN newscares Monday (13). Several writers dicker for the University of Chicago's "The Human Adventure."

House Ways and Means Committee last week killed the Bankhead bill which would have provided a \$15,000,000 subsidy for small newspaper publishers who have joined KFCR, Don Lee station, as account executive.

Try Rhodes (former sales manager of Blue's KGO), also taken a desk at KFCR as account exec. Rhodes entered radio field 12 years ago as member of KFO-NBC staff, later shifting to KGO, Blue, and became sales manager in 1934.

Ed Stanton, formerly of KFBC, Sacramento; KXH, Portland, and other northern stations, has joined the KFCR announcing staff.

Harry Beentel, radio vet and chief announcer with KYA in the lush days of the 1920s, for the past several years has been with the radio section of the War Dept.

## From the Production Centres

Continued from page 30

Dec. 17, Studio audience will be hundreds of V-12 Naval students at Notre Dame U. - Shep Charlot, CBS-WBBM press chief, in Wesley Memorial hospital with the flu. - Red Foley replaces Rusty Gill on the WLS D-X Melody Revue, starting Dec. 11. Gill left the Army last week. - William Walbaum, formerly with WBBM, has joined the WGN continuity staff. He replaces June Claire.

Walter Preston, CBS western program manager, to New York to discuss the new program policy of the network. - "Ranch House Jim," starring Curtis Bradley, bows in over the Blue Network Jan. 3. Show will be broadcast over 22 stations Friday (CWT) three times a week. - Nelson, songstress, is dicker for a 15-minute show with a local sponsor.

- Addison Lewis, of Addison Lewis Associates, Minneapolis, who handles Milwaukee-Honeywell, in favor to look over the other WLS, have June Nelson, songstress who had a long stay at the Ambassador hotel's "Buttery," dicker with two local stations for a 15-minute show. - Mac and Bob, blind guitar players who have a national show over WLS, have been in a war plant turning out precision instruments. - Pat Flanagan, dean of the WBBM announcing staff, was given a going-away dinner by his fellow announcers. - New kid appeal has been developed for the NBC sustainer "Radio to Danger," which will be aired on Saturdays, 9:30-10 a.m. (CWT), show formerly was heard Fridays from 10:30-11 p.m. (CWT). - WBBM's "Victory March" has sold over \$40,000 worth of war bonds. - Robert Guilbert, continuity associate editor of the NBC central station, spends his spare time writing radio scripts for the Army Aviation Cadet examining board.

Flu epidemic here has reached serious proportions with scores of folks from the various agencies and stations on the sick list. - Vera Lane was the guest star on the Fred Freeman war bond show here last week. - Roy Rowan, formerly with WKZO, Kalamazoo, has joined the WGN staff as an announcer. - Smilin Ed McConnell, who reads the funnies over WBBM, will do a swirl of broadcast series of broadening a place for used toys for the kids for Xmas. Broadcasts starting Dec. 18 will run through until Dec. 24. - According to a recent Hooper rating John Holbrook, WGN newscaster, has more listeners than any other program originating in Chicago. - Leader, inset, former radio dramatic star, now working at the Wrigley restaurant.

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Try Rhodes (former sales manager of Blue's KGO), also taken a desk at KFCR as account exec. Rhodes entered radio field 12 years ago as member of KFO-NBC staff, later shifting to KGO, Blue, and became sales manager in 1934.

Ed Stanton, formerly of KFBC, Sacramento; KXH, Portland, and other northern stations, has joined the KFCR announcing staff.

Harry Beentel, radio vet and chief announcer with KYA in the lush days of the 1920s, for the past several years has been with the radio section of the War Dept.

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Thank you, Grover Whalen ...

and the New York CDVO for awarding WMCA and Lillian Okun's "Civilian Defense News" program your coveted Certificate of Merit. \*

Thanks, too, for this opportunity to serve your vital cause—and to prove once more that the New York audience of responsive action keeps tuned to First on New York's Dial—WMCA!

wmca

AMERICA'S LEADING INDEPENDENT STATION

\*Highest civilian defense award for "patriotically and generously promoting participation in all phases of Home Front activity."

**LEADS IN NEWS SERVICE!**

Only WSAI, among all local Cincinnati Stations, has an exclusively different form of news service...

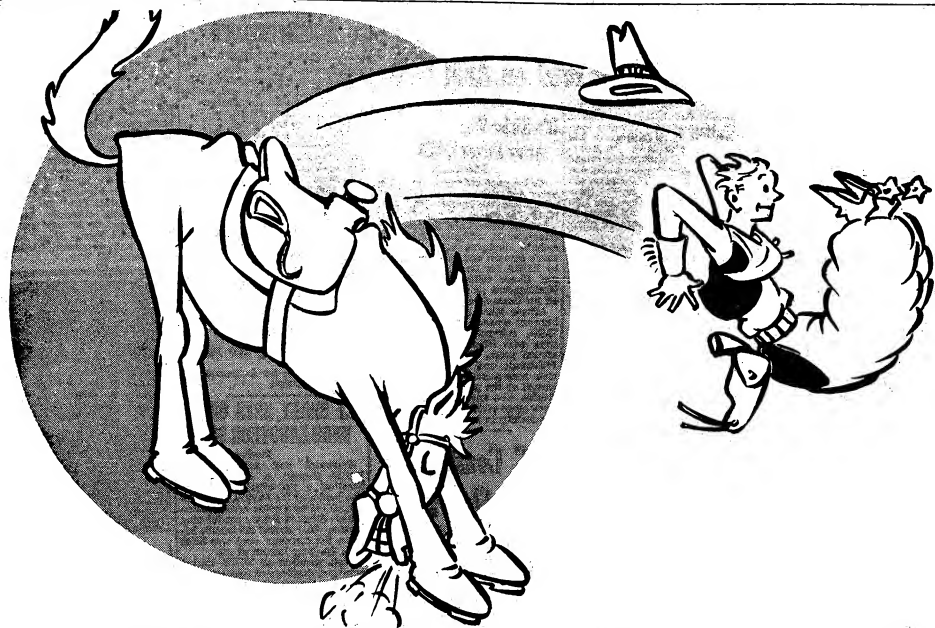
**TIME-CLOCKED NEWS**

...only WSAI receives news direct by fast trunk wires from 5 international news services...A.P., U.P., Reuters, International News Service, Blue Network News.

**WSAI**

5000 WATTS - DAY AND NIGHT  
BASIC BLUE NETWORK STATION  
CROSLEY OWNED AND OPERATED

NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE:  
SPOT SALES, INC.  
NEW YORK • CHICAGO  
SAN FRANCISCO



# ...GIVE AN ADVERTISER\* A HORSE HE CAN RIDE

**\* (And Radio Stations, Too)**



**Tall Enough,** So she won't drag your feet! *The Texas Rangers* transcribed library of western entertainment is riding to new heights with a selected list of blue book nationally known advertisers—on America's prestige radio stations.



**Plump Enough,** So she's sure riding from mane to tail! *The Texas Rangers* music with mass appeal has been solid comfort to advertisers large and small—dealing in bread to hair tonic—from Maine to Honolulu.



**Fast Enough,** So she's a winner in every race! *The Texas Rangers* with its flexible program building is receiving testimonials daily from those in the saddle—dealing in beer to cold tablets—from Minnesota to Louisiana.



**Gentle Enough,** So she's easy on the pocketbook! *The Texas Rangers* with its Hollywood and network radio talent has a reasonable feed bill, whether it's for fashionable stables in New York or for a little gray barn in the West!



**Yet, Spirited Enough,** So she's worth the owning! *The Texas Rangers* is one transcribed library that hasn't been ridden by every Tom, Dick and Harry. If you're one to treat her right, we'll be glad to give you a breeze about the paddock in the form of a sample program. You won't have to buy her, of course.

*The Texas  
Rangers*  
**LIBRARY**

**An Arthur B. Church Production — Write George Halley, Pickwick Hotel, Kansas City, Missouri**

He's right at home on the

## DAIRY FARM



Dairying is the major agricultural activity in Minnesota, the nation's fifth richest agricultural state. And a great share of Minnesota's most progressive and prosperous dairy farmers are members of Land O' Lakes Creameries—the great producers' co-op whose name and products are familiar throughout the country.

As one phase of an effective, comprehensive promotion campaign in rural Minnesota, KSTP has been telling these farmers the story of its fine programming in full-page ads published in every issue of the "Land O' Lakes News."

For nearly two years now, KSTP's story has been reaching some 65,000 of the state's prospective farm homes through this well-known, official organ of the co-op.

Dollar-wise, KSTP is a good buy for its effective coverage of the Twin City Market alone. Now, there is this important plus—a steadily growing rural audience with big money to spend. Special programs and aggressive promotion are constantly adding to this large rural plus. Along with the pages in "Land O' Lakes News," the continuing promotional campaign includes:

1. Forceful ads in "The Farmer," reaching 47,000 Minnesota farm homes.
2. Litter-stimulating ads in 344 rural newspapers.
3. Personal appearances of KSTP's Barn Dance group in Minnesota towns.
4. "On the Minnesota Farm," new column by KSTP's Farm Service Director, Harry Anderson, appearing weekly in 81 newspapers.
5. "Land O' Lakes News," around radio by 70 county papers.

Your advertising dollar will do more in '44 on KSTP!

**KSTP**  
MINNEAPOLIS 1900

Exclusive NBC Affiliate for the Twin Cities  
Represented nationally by Edward Petry and Company

## No Decision for At Least Month As WLB Studies Brief on AFM Strike

A 77-page brief requesting the three-man War Labor Board panel which heard the Pathefilm companies' dispute, to recommend that the National WLB order the American Federation of Musicians to end its strike against the company, was filed with the panel Thursday.

It is signed by Robert F. Myers, RCA-Victor and NBC Recording Director attorney, and by Ralph F. Columbia Recording Corp. counsel.

The AFM brief was filed Nov. 29, and the union's brief was filed the company's brief Monday (29). It will be at least a month before the panel issues its recommendations.

## Censor Closes Eased By Price

Washington.  
Mild slings up of the press and radio voluntary censorship code was announced last Friday by Censor Price, director of the Office of Censorship. Price also released a third printed revision of the code, the first compilation of changes since last February.

In the section of the radio code devoted to news broadcasts and commentary, section on weather has been changed, and the restrictions are now: "Weather forecasts other than those officially released by the Weather Bureau. Mention of wind direction or barometric pressure in casual or past weather news, including summaries or recapitulations" except when contained in emergency warnings released specifically for broadcast by Weather Bureau authorities.

Special events reporters, covering sports or other major news events (fires, floods, storms, etc.) are cautioned especially against mention of "war direction." This section on censorship can be used on the former restrictions.

Code (11), relating to armed forces in the United States, has been amended so that broadcasters may now mention names, addresses, location and general category of service men on duty on anti-aircraft, coastal, or invasion defenses at embarkation points. This information was previously forbidden. Also eliminated is the section which prohibited mention of air raids inside continental United States during attacks by stations outside the zone of action, unless expressly announced for broadcast by the War Dept. in Washington. Now liberalized, the substitute forbids mention of any raid in the continental United States during its course, except on appropriate authority of the designated representative of the Defense Commission in whose area the raid occurs, or the War Dept. in Washington.

Dropped from the present code is the section which formerly prohibited mention of the location of civilian defense communication control centers.

There are several changes in the section relating to information about the production. The paragraph devoted to Lentz-Gease 'has been dropped, as has the section dealing with arrangements of war plant employment figures, and capacity of plants.

One of the two paragraphs relating to "unconfirmed reports, rumors" has been dropped. The other paragraph, which is activated against reports under the guise of opinion, speculation or prediction, any fact which has not been released by an appropriate authority, has been moved forward to a more prominent position in the code.

Two important changes have been made in the section referring to foreign language broadcasts by domestic stations. It is no longer necessary for the stations to obtain advance English language translations for foreign language scripts. Instead, the following paragraph has been added: "Broadcasts and Monitors—In order that these functions be performed in a manner consistent with the demands of security, station managers are reminded that their staffs should include capable linguists manning the monitors whose duty it will be to review all scripts in advance of broadcast and check them during broadcast against deviation."

## It's Kirby Vice Aston As Army Solves KDKA Com'l

Pittsburgh, Dec. 14.

It's the same old story: one in the Army and one out, with the latter taking over the former's job. John Kirby, Pittsburgh actor and singer, who left Liberty and Sullivan repertory outfit, recently received a medical discharge after nearly a year's service, and has been hired by KDKA for Buzz Aston's Breakfast Cheer coffee commercial on Westinghouse station. Aston showed off for Uncle Sam last week.

Aston's other commercial, for brewery concern, has gone to Tiny Wolfe, roly-poly comic who has been with Blue Baron band for several years. Wolfe's home is in Pittsburgh, and he expects to return here permanently. He's being teamed on the program with Jeanne Baxter, who has returned to radio work again after taking time out for four months to have a baby.

## NBC Coast Net Sets Shows On Bill of Rights

San Francisco, Dec.

Cooperating with a coastwide program of observance of Bill of Rights Week, the Western network of NBC, in conjunction with the Hearst network, is devoting this week to a series of programs stressing American freedoms. The program will be headed by commentator Bernard L. Terry Smith, former INS manager at Tokyo.

Lochner will compare the rights of the Germans with those of the Americans, and Smith will compare American "freedom" with those of American citizens. The broadcast series are the same as the commentators' regular daily broadcasts, Smith at 9:15 a.m. and Lochner at 5:45 p.m. Both broadcasts are scheduled for tomorrow.

"The Keys to Freedom," dramatization by students of the George Washington High School, Friday, Dec. 14, Sunday morning (12) on time donated by W. J. J. Slough Co. "Stand and Hour" and the Dr. Kate program also featuring Bill of Rights comments, and California's governor, Earl Warren, broadcast Monday (13) afternoon. On Saturday, (18) William Randolph Hearst, Jr. will speak from New York following a dramatization of the trial of Peter Zenzer.

## 'OPEN HOUSE' PROGRAM TAKES NEW FORMAT

Cleveland, Dec. 14.

WGAC's "Open House" program has undergone a complete change with everything eliminated but music. Program now consists of Walberg, Brown and his Clevelandaires performing with Reg Morley as vocalist. Carl George, operations director, admitted the program originated by CBS, and requested to 30 stations had never achieved the station's realization that and the studio had been able to develop as much time and money as necessary to such a network show. Also, the program did not have a live audience because of its midnight slot.

New musical "Open House" show is set to go CBS nights.

D. C. Announcers Into Army

Washington, Dec. 14.  
Two WMAJ announcers here have been inducted in the armed forces. Ray Mitchell is in the Army, and John Bruford has gone into the Navy.

Plugging one of the vacancies in the Blue Outlet is Bernard Bennett, who has been honorably discharged from the Army. Bennett was formerly chief announcer for WBTA, Batavia, N. Y.

## POOR PENELOPE

By ALAN LIPSCOTT

Poor Penelope of the radio, heroine of the morning show. Mon. to Fri. for weeks and weeks. Always down her rosy cheeks. Always in love, always good. Always sweet and so refined. She's the ever-loving kind. She loves sweet, she loves sleet, she loves cold, she loves heat, she loves sun shine, she loves showers. She loves birds, she loves flowers, she loves rain, she loves rain. She loves orphans, she loves brats, she loves elephants, she loves fleas, she loves lions and cheetahs and bees. She loves opera, she loves singing. She loves every goddam thing. But she's doubledcrossed by fate. When she loves her fickle mate, Love that makes her go berserk. When the male turns out a jerk. Always a mother, but never a wife. Poor Penelope, what a life!

Will Penelope live or die? For the decision, Be sure to tune her in tomorrow on television.

## FLY SPRAY SETS OFF WHO SABOTEUR SCARE

Dayton, Dec. 14.

Engineers and announcers of WHIO thought a saboteur had launched a gas attack on the station. The janitor of the Dayton, Ohio, station picked up a bottle of oil to clean the air filters in the air conditioning system. That started the trouble because the container used was filled with fly spray instead of oil. Staff members of WHIO started coughing, gagging and spitting because of the peculiar mixture. The staff was pouring out in the studios and control rooms. Eyes watered so badly that copy could not be read accurately so a microphone was set up in an office that didn't have an air conditioning outlet and activities on the air originated in this temporary office-studio for several hours.

## FCC Sez OK to Station Tag Honoring 'Bill' Cody

Omaha, Dec. 14.

The Federal Communications Commission has gone sentimental. It okayed a WOF, Omaha, request to change the call letters of the new acquisition, KGFW, North Platte, Neb., to WHIO because the station's transmitter is located on the site of Col. William F. Cody's original ranch. WOF sought the station from the Great Plains, broadcasting Co., operated by Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Barron for 18 months. KODY received station (11) as an NBC affiliate, and is now broadcasting 18 hours a day, 7 days a week on 1240 kc. It covers western Nebraska.

## Ham Dalton Again Airing In Philly As WJBG Staffer

Philadelphia, Dec. 14.

Hamilton (Ham) Dalton, once the 'voice of City Council,' has returned to the air after a long absence. He's a contributor to staff of WJBG. Dalton was hired by the City Fathers about five years ago to all but him with the public via a series of radio broadcasts after the city men were bitterly flayed in public and press for passing a sales tax. Dalton was at that time a city official, they couldn't get a fair break in the dailies and only way to reach the public with their side of the story was via radio.

Lynchburg. — Alton Hampton, chief announcer at Romance's WSLA (TV-Cities) went for 18 months, to join WMAJ staff, Washington.

## Sun Ship Adds Fourth Philly Air Show in Bid To Recruit Workers

Philadelphia, Dec.

The Sun Shipbuilding Co. Chester, has added a fourth radio show in its drive to recruit workers.

Latest broadcast is a five-minute transcription of dramatic series on WFIL about war heroes, battles, incidents, and the like of the current war. It is titled "To Whom It May Concern," scripted by Edward C. Obrist, WFIL program director.

Sun Ship currently bankrolls "Sweet Land of Liberty" and "Tom Morehead's Sports Show," both on WFIL, and a quiz, "Dollars to Doughnuts," on WIP.

## "Results Keep Fulton Market Using KSO"

Says Roy Hunsdon, Jr.

In New York, you'd think of Park & Tilford, — in Chicago, of Stou & Shop, — in Baltimore, of Huppert McGraw.

And in Central Iowa, to find outstanding food items, you'd think of the Fulton Market, Des Moines. On the Fulton Market's experience with broadcasting, comes this report from the general manager, Roy Hunsdon, Jr.

"We began using radio as an experiment. Through a combination of inditement and luck, we chose KSO. In a broadcast featuring their effective news economist, Walts Schreiner.

"This program has been highly successful because of its sincere nature and because Mr. Schreiner deals particularly in foods. Commercial messages, as she gives them, are so naturally worked into the conversation that their effectiveness is increased.

"Our original three-a-week schedule has become six-a-week — our test period of three months has stretched into three years — all for one reason—Results."

**KSO**  
BASIC BLUE  
AND MUTUAL  
9000 WATTS  
**WJBG**  
BASIC  
COLUMBIA  
9000 WATTS  
"THE COWBOY STATIONS"  
**DES MOINES**

Affiliated with Des Moines Radio & Tribune  
Represented by The Katz Agency

**WISDOM—MUSIC—FAITH—GUARANTEED**

**TO KODY TO WBMB!**  
Brings the best of forty-three  
Music, very different from any—  
Something suiting everyone—  
Morning, noon or night you'll find  
Just the best of the best of KODY  
For the best in '43, stay tuned to WBMB.

**WBMB Richmond, Va. NBC**

# Ray Jones, Out of Army, Returning to Chi AFRA

Chicago, Dec. 14. Ray Jones, former exec secretary of the American Federation of Radio Artists who was given a medical discharge from the Army last week, will take over his old post after the end of the year. Jones entered the Army last April as a volunteer officer candidate. At the time he entered the Army the membership of AFRA voted to keep his job open until his return.

By Faine acting secretary of the union, will be inducted into the Army Dec. 20. Faine had been a field representative of the union prior to his taking over as acting secretary.

## KTHS Wants to Move

Little Rock, Dec. 14. Owners of KTHS, Hot Springs, have filed petition with the FCC for transfer of the station. New location indicated in the petition. KTHS formerly was the property of the Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce and, when the petition for the station sold, ownership was gained by Shreveport, La., interests. The radio's old station, KFWB, is a 250-watt station and operates on a frequency of 1340 and is a part of the Mutual Network. KTHS is on the NBC Blue. Reports here are that at least one Little Rock station will oppose any effort to remove KTHS to this city.

## Argentine Radio

Continued from page 32

Li. Col. Anibal Francisco Imbert. Many the trade have felt that Farías, although supposedly a subordinate, has actually held more power than his boss and broadcasters under fire of a steady stream of new rules and regulations from both, have been certain which way to turn.

The new Press and Propaganda Dept. is ordered by presidential decree to "take necessary steps to see to it that the press, broadcasting stations, social and political literature, music, theatres and in general all public performances unfold their activities in accordance with the intentions inaugurated by the government."

Wholesale Censorship

Department is also (a) to centralize and coordinate official information and the emission of news of general interest, (b) provide the means by which the groups mentioned may carry out their activities, (c) stimulate the production of national films and classify them for the granting of prizes and privileges, and (d) coordinate and intensify the relations of the press with the public authorities."

BOOM!

There's a boom back home, too, in the town where this gun was made.

COVER THESE NEW MARKETS WITH RADIO

REED

AND COMPANY

NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017

CHICAGO, ILL. 60611

PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19102

ST. LOUIS, MO. 63101

DETROIT, MI. 48201

CLEVELAND, OH. 44101

PITTSBURGH, PA. 15201

INDIANAPOLIS, IN. 46201

KANSAS CITY, MO. 64101

ST. CINCINNATI, OH. 45201

SPRINGFIELD, IL. 62701

MEMPHIS, TN. 38101

LOUISVILLE, KY. 40201

COLUMBIA, MO. 65201

ST. JOHNS, MO. 64501

KEOKUK, IA. 52601

DES MOINES, IA. 50301

SIoux FALLS, SD. 57101

WYOMING, WY. 82001

UTAH, UT. 84001

IDAHO, ID. 83401

OREGON, OR. 97101

WASHINGTON, WA. 98101

ALASKA, AK. 99501

ARIZONA, AZ. 85701

NEW MEXICO, NM. 88101

TEXAS, TX. 75201

OKLAHOMA, OK. 73101

KANSAS, KS. 66101

MISSOURI, MO. 64101

ILLINOIS, IL. 60601

INDIANA, IN. 46201

MICHIGAN, MI. 48201

OHIO, OH. 44101

PENNSYLVANIA, PA. 19101

DELAWARE, DE. 19701

MARYLAND, MD. 21201

VIRGINIA, VA. 22201

NORTH CAROLINA, NC. 27601

SOUTH CAROLINA, SC. 29201

MISSISSIPPI, MS. 39201

LOUISIANA, LA. 70001

ALABAMA, AL. 36001

FLORIDA, FL. 32101

GEORGIA, GA. 30301

SOUTH CAROLINA, SC. 29201

NORTH CAROLINA, NC. 27601

VIRGINIA, VA. 22201

MARYLAND, MD. 21201

DELAWARE, DE. 19701

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OHIO, OH. 44101

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MICHIGAN, MI. 48201

ILLINOIS, IL. 60601

MISSOURI, MO. 64101

KANSAS, KS. 66101

OKLAHOMA, OK. 73101

NEBRASKA, NE. 68101

MINNESOTA, MN. 55401

WISCONSIN, WI. 53201

IDAHO, ID. 83401

UTAH, UT. 84001

ARIZONA, AZ. 85701

NEW MEXICO, NM. 88101

TEXAS, TX. 75201

OKLAHOMA, OK. 73101

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MISSISSIPPI, MS. 39201

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ALABAMA, AL. 36001

FLORIDA, FL. 32101

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NORTH CAROLINA, NC. 27601

SOUTH CAROLINA, SC. 29201

MISSISSIPPI, MS. 39201

LOUISIANA, LA. 70001

ALABAMA, AL. 36001

FLORIDA, FL. 32101

GEORGIA, GA. 30301

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KANSAS, KS. 66101

OKLAHOMA, OK. 73101

NEBRASKA, NE. 68101

MINNESOTA, MN. 55401

WISCONSIN, WI. 53201

IDAHO, ID. 83401

UTAH, UT. 84001

ARIZONA, AZ. 85701

NEW MEXICO, NM. 88101

TEXAS, TX. 75201

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NORTH CAROLINA, NC. 2760





## Provide More Canadian Outlets for Blue; CIBC

### Names Caldwell Mgr.

Toronto, Dec. 14. S. W. (Spence) Caldwell, Vancouver, has been named manager of CIBC, Toronto, key station of the Canadian Broadcasting network's Dominion network, and will be replacing the latter chain along to develop more outlets in Canada for the Blue network.

New setup, getting under way Jan. 1, will see the Federal Government chain comprising CTV networks—Trans-Canada, made up of existing Government stations, and Dominion, and CIBC, sponsors of Hollywood Highlights, a five-times-a-week translated show.

First 20 spots already waxed plug 14 WB names and 10 pictures.

## Canadian Silk, WB Pact To Jingle Stars, Pix

Toronto, Dec. 14. Femme stars and current featured films from the WB studios will be plugged in Jingle form over 13 Canadian stations through a tieup between the studio and Canadian Silk Products, sponsors of Hollywood Highlights, a five-times-a-week translated show.

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## DOMINION FINANCING 6-WAY CAN. DX SETUP

Montreal, Dec. 14. Shortwave radio station designed to broadcast in six directions at once, with the most elaborate unit directed to Great Britain and Europe, is now being built at Sackville, New Brunswick, with the financial help of the Dominion Government. Dr. Augustin Frigon, acting g.m., Canadian Broadcasting Corp., told the Province of Quebec Radio Trades Assn. at the 15th annual dinner here last week.

Dr. Frigon added that "Canada will have a voice in international arrangements with foreign countries shortwave broadcasting... and to have our programs rebroadcast locally and included in regular schedules of all important networks."

## MBS Execs in Huddle On New Rate Setup

Chicago, Dec. 14. Three-day session of the Mutual Broadcasting System brass has held here recently to discuss new programs was actually given over almost entirely to a discussion of the proposed new rate structure of the network.

Programming was the order of the day on Monday, the first day of the meeting, with Tuesday and Wednesday devoted to confab on rates by the members of the executive committee of the network.

Stephen Chase is giving up his role as Tom Hawkins in the NBC daytime, "A Woman of America" program to join a USO repertory company, which will present a series of popular Broadway plays to overseas servicemen.

## Payroll Traffic

St. Louis—Newell gabbing addition to KMOX staff is Ron Rawson, formerly with KSCJ, KSOO, KSD and KXOK. Bernie Fox, assistant office manager at KMOX, has donated khaki.

Jack Norwine, formerly of KARK, now spicing at KMOX.

San Antonio—Two femmes replace army-bound Ramsey Yelvington of KTSa continuity staff. Newcomers are Nita Oneda Caster, new to radio, and Ardrey Pfanstiel, moving over to KABC here. Latter replaced at KABC by Jonella Kirkland.

Seattle—Marjorie de Garmo, former radio scripter and member of the Seattle Radio Council, back in radio work as publicity director for KIRO. Bob Phillips is new announcer at KIRO, and Larry Chatterton, newscaster, into merchant marine.

Salt Lake City—Elizabeth Carter makes her start in radio as continuity writer and receptionist for KUTA.

New announcers for KDYL are Ken Hegard, from WRIN, Racine, Wis.; Kay Richins, from KUTA, and Will Wright, formerly of KTF, Pocatello, Ida. Dorothy Wagstaff, formerly publicist with the Paris Company, local dept. store, joins KSL continuity.

John Powell, control operator at KSL, has been recruited into the Marine Corps by Sgt. Gene Halliday, former KSL operator; announcer Joseph Kjar to the navy. Ivor Sharp, director of station operations, announces Edward J. Brown as new sales manager, in charge of both local and national. Ralph W. Hardy.

program director; Barratt Chadwick, continuity editor and feature script writer.

Jim McBride, staff announcer, to the army, replaced at KUTA by Herman Wilson from KFSB, San Diego.

Cleveland—Duke Lidy, WHK announcer for 11 years, resigned to join staff of Mark Peber in publications dept. of Goodyear Rubber in Akron. Maurice J. Condon, back with honorable discharge from army, named assistant sales manager in charge of local sales at WGAR.

Pittsburgh—Scott Keck and Fred Rawlings, both formerly with the Blue network in N. Y., have joined the announcers' staff at WCAE. Another recent addition to the corps of spicers at local Heart station is Sam Seale.

Claude Morris, production man at KDKA, is leaving around the end of this month to join the radio department of the Walter-Dwining agency. His successor, hasn't been named yet.

Memphis—Patti Obina, new to radio, has joined the staff of WMPB in the promotion and program dept. Formerly with Evergreen Theatres Corp. in Seattle, she is in Memphis with her husband, who is an aviator at the Naval Air Station.

Washington—WRC, suffering from the universal squeeze on manpower, has signed the first woman engineer to go into a major station here. She is Ermadene Metz, who will do studio work only at WRC. She comes from Indianapolis, where she had nine months' experience at master control desks.

## Cue 'Lonely Women' Title Switch for Post-War

Chicago, Dec. 14. "Lonely Women," NBC's five-times-a-week, has been changed to "Today's Children," effective Dec. 15. Change was decided upon by Carl Wester, producer of the show, who felt that the "Lonely Women" label, while okay for war time, would not be appropriate in the post-war era.

"Today's Children" was the name of a Philips serial aired six years ago. Format of the "Women" program will not be changed. Show, which has been on the air a year and a half, is aired 1:30-1:30 (CWT).

## IBEW Pact Contract For WCCO Announcers

Minneapolis, Dec. 14. Agreement between the IBEW (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers) and WCCO, covering the station's announcing staff, has been signed.

Discussions had been going on for nearly a year. Clauses permitting to grievances and arbitration had been signed.

## Slavick on NBC Bd.

Memphis, Dec. 14. Henry W. Slavick, general manager of WMC, has been elected a member of the NBC Planning and Advisory Committee to represent the states of Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana, Georgia and Florida. Slavick replaces Harry Stone, of WSM, Nashville.

Members of the committee are elected by NBC stations in the various territories they are to serve. The committee meets regularly and studies methods of improving NBC service, both from a listener and advertiser standpoint, and also considers the economic and social service problems affecting network broadcasting.

## BMI Signs KFWB

Hollywood, Dec. 14. Longtime holdout, KFWB finally signed with Broadcast Music for performing rights to its catalog. Harry Matzkin acted for the station owner, Warner, which owns four publishing companies, all affiliated with ASCAP.

## Coast 'Gang' Show Moves

San Francisco, Dec. 14. "Spell for Dough," the Remar Bakke Co.'s program, formerly aired over KGO, Blue station, has been moved over the KFRG, Don Lee-Mutual. Henry Grant is master of ceremonies and Bob Bence, announcer.

The show originates in the Green Room of the Lake Merritt hotel, Oakland, 7:30 to 8 o'clock Thursday evenings.

## Radio Producers, Agencies, Networks:

Writer with many air-credits has smash 1/2-hour comedy show copyrighted. Something new in radio. Opportunity to package for submission to agencies and sponsors. You write it. It writes it. 50-50 basis. Box 1116, Variety, 156 W. 46th St. New York 19, N. Y.

# Maestro 'Bobby' Norris Sues Daily For \$50,000 Over Draft-Nab Story

Springfield, Mass., Dec. 14. Testimony in a \$50,000 libel suit by Abraham R. Coleman, of Baltimore, known in New England dance band circles as 'Bobby' Norris, against the Daily News for publishing a story concerning his arrest the night of Aug. 21, 1942, for alleged violation of the Selective Service Act, opened before Judge Francis F. Kane in U. S. district court today (14). Coleman said he came here from Brooklyn in May, 1942, to lead his orchestra at the Wardway fond shop.

He insisted he notified his draft board of his address in West Springfield over July 4 and that he turned into custody by the FBI in August. Coleman insists his suit on the story of his libelous arrest is the first day in the Daily News. While living in West Springfield, the band leader declared, he obtained employment on a war job at the American Bosch Corp.

## Lyman's New Switch On Overseas Touring; Leaves After Essex, N.Y.

Abe Lyman, N. Y., says that he will take his band overseas for USO-Camp shows, later following the completion of its current run at the Essex House, N. Y., in mid-January. This is a reversal of his stance on the trip by Lyman; he was originally due to go offshore late last month, but dropped the idea after, he said, several of his men were denied permission to leave the continent of local bands.

Lyman now has plans for every man in his outfit with the exception of his drum major.

## HARRY JAMES DUE FOR ARMY TEST TODAY (15)

Harry James is scheduled to take an induction physical in Hollywood today (Wednes.) unless last-minute pitches by Metro for another deferment for him are honored. James was to have been through the same time ago, but deferment requests by the film outfit, for whom he is completing a third film since last summer, delayed it.

James' draft board is in Beaumont, Texas, and home town of his physical has been transferred to the Coast.

## Ina Hutton Opening New Hub Band Spot

New band name band will open in Boston Jan. 13, with Ina Ray Hutton's outfit set for two weeks. Called the Ruesonians spot was formerly the Sealant Ballroom and in addition to the band will have a floor show.

Said to be operated by Ben Ford, current owner of the Tie-Toc, which uses a policy of colored bands and acts.

## GI Tooters Set for 1st Town Hall, N. Y., Concert

The first in a series of Saturday afternoon concert series for military troops at Town Hall, N. Y., Sat. (18) will feature three G. musicians. Maxie Kaminsky, recently returned from Pacific outposts with the Artie Shaw Navy band, is down for some trumpet work, while Mel Powell, of the Glenn Miller Army outfit, and Sgt. Joey Ashkin, currently playing with Sgt. Dave Roise's 'Winged Victory' orch., are skedded for piano duty.

As in earlier series, Eddie Condon will direct, informally. Ad agency execs, Ernie Anderson and Paul Smith are underwriting the concert in conjunction with other entertainment devices.

Phil Moore's song, 'Shoo Shoo Baby,' will be used in four films now shooting. 'Three Cheers for the Girls of Universal,' 'The Republic,' 'Meet the People,' Metro, and 'Beautiful But Broke,' Columbia.

## Intermission

Washington.

Adolfo Giron, leader of one of the most popular dance bands in Mexico City, halted his program at a intermission, where, with his niece, her mother and a justice of the peace were seated.

For minutes later he scolded back to the band and resumed conducting—a married man.

## Russ Morgan Cancels Booked Coast Date To Stay East with Family

Russ Morgan has refused to sign a contract to open a new name band in the Claremont Hotel, Calif., which he previously accepted the job and his appearance there was confirmed to the hotel by MCA's Hollywood office. Morgan doesn't want to go to the Coast, preferring to stay in the East. As a result, he may leave Abe Lyman in the Hotel House, N. Y. next month.

Morgan was set to open the Claremont for 16 weeks at \$150 per week. In addition to refusing the deal, there he had cancelled and offered other dates during the coming holiday period. He rejected slightly over \$13,000 worth of work to stay in the east with his family.

## NIX MILLER'S PLAN TO TOUR COAST OVERSEAS

Capt. Glenn Miller is still anxious to take his Army Air Force band overseas to entertain troops, but reportedly has been denied permission by Army brass-tale. Rejection of Miller's request is based on the feeling that the weekly broadcast he does on CBS with the band is more valuable on the home front.

So far the only service band to go overseas is Artie Shaw's Naval combination, which recently returned from a tour through the South Pacific. No civilian combinations have been out of the country, though USO-sponsored tours are being lined up.

## USO Hunts Skin-Beaters

USO-Camp Shows, Inc., is on the prowl for drummers to go overseas. How the single musicians going to be used is not being disclosed. USO's official shore scale for musicians applies.

Good drummers are scarce currently. There are few leaders completely satisfied with what they have. One maestro last week answered a query about his beat with the remark, 'There's nothing wrong with me, a good drummer won't fix it.'

## Bob Chester's Orch Signed by Warner

To appear in Hollywood Grand Cabaret.

## BOB STRONG

And His Orchestra

Now at Roseland Ballroom, New York

## Glaser-Stein, Inc.

Albany, Dec. 14. Associated Booking Corp. has been chartered to conduct an agency business in New York. Capital stock is 100 shares, no par value. Directors are: Edgar, attorney; Benjamin L. Miller and Martin Miller, all of N. Y. This is the corporate setup of the new firm, based in Glaser's firm by Jules A. Stein, head of Music Corp. of America.

## Hartenstein Reopening Sunnybrook, Pa., Dancery New Year's Eve with Allen

Sunnybrook Ballroom, Pottsville, Pa., will reopen New Year's Eve with Bob Allen's orchestra and will operate every Saturday thereafter. One of the largest dance spots in the East and before the war perhaps the most important one-night stand, Sunnybrook is owned and operated by Ray Hartenstein. He has no more definitely booked beyond Dec. 21 as yet, but assures bookers he will continue.

Hartenstein has a capacity of approximately 6,000, shuttered about a year and a half ago when the first place driving ban hit it 12 miles outside Pottsville. Though Hartenstein has made several moves to reopen, this is the first time he's carrying through. Pre-war he also ran Saturday night only, using only the top bands.

## RANDY BROOKS TO HAVE OWN BAND AFTER WAR

Randy Brooks, star trumpetmer with Lew Brown's orchestra, has completed a deal with Brown and Jay Glazer, latter's manager, whereby he will be financed by both in the formation of a band of his own post-war. Brooks has been with Brown over six months, prior to that having been musical boss of Bob Allen's orchestra.

Due to the arrangement with Brown and Glazer, none of the top band leaders have been able to pull Brooks away from that band.

## Stolen Trumpets Don't Fit Kid Tooter's Kisser

Detroit, Dec. 14. Because a 17-year-old Detroit musician couldn't suit through the two special mouthpieces on a pair of trumpets used in Russ Morgan's band, Ralph Hayes, the orch's corner man, last week took back \$300 worth of hard-to-get horns.

The two trumpets were stolen when Morgan was playing at the Michigan here. The 17-year-old musician, who plays with a small far band here, had police a character told them to him on the street for \$20. The kid tried for days to play them, but said the mouthpieces whistled me. He finally pawned the two corners under his own name.

Bob Chester's orch signed by Warner to appear in Hollywood Grand Cabaret.

## Inside Stuff—Orchestras

After weeks of dickering to shift agency-affiliation elsewhere, bus Barrow's orchestra, under Tommy Ryan, signed a new one-year contract with Atlantic City, N. J., in a move to get Ryan's orchestra in the east in remote control of his orchestra through his sister Clarisse, business manager, was about to pay \$4,000 he owes MCA and sever connections. He would not still over \$5,000, repays \$3,000 MCA advanced to move the band away from Consolidated Radio Artists and \$1,600 in back commissions.

After Ryan's move into the Army a short time ago, putting Tommy Ryan, singer then with Sammy Kaye, in his place. It is the first time a service-bound leader has been able to keep his band intact and working.

Closed roadhouse owners around N. Y., who formerly used name and semi-name orchestras, claim that the only thing that is keeping the majority from reopening is the lack of waiters and kitchen help. Several have been closed almost a year, but are now reopening in the east because so difficult, say that from the business being down by bars and small eating stands they've reopened since the gas law was lifted, the bigger operation would have no trouble, but their hands are tied by the lack of help.

Of the group of roadhouses that formerly ringed N. Y. and employed name orchestras, only Frank Dally's Meadowbrook is skirting. Dally asserts he intends to reopen his Cedar Grove, N. J., spot next spring.

Impressed by the business being done by Count Basie's orchestra at the Lincoln hotel, which she operates along with the nearby Edison, Mrs. Maria Krumer states she has been first in her bid for the above promising bands cheaply for the former spot and henceforth will employ only the best outfits available. This policy agrees with her former stance against increasing salaries. She's concerned that the new bands, including good-cash wire acts, probably the most cash she has ever spent on a band.

Basie has been very successful at the Lincoln. He is said to have topped the list of the most successful bands in the room, including those set up by Harry James and Artie Shaw.

Shep Fields will have a second opening at the Park Central hotel, N. Y., tomorrow night (Thursday). He has been out of the above promising level since the band opened and his return will mark the repeat opening. Fields has been down with virus pneumonia. He is one of many leaders and actors who have been closed since the outbreak of the war. Tommy Dorsey, Tommy Rockwell, of GAC; Willard Alexander, of the Morris Agency; Bea Wain, at the Capitol theatre, N. Y., is another. She has been out of the stage since last Thursday night. Sunny Skylar, WGB-Mutual singer, has been substituting.

Probably at a loss for new name-band material to market for the holiday period, RCA Victor has released two discs carrying the same tunes, each side, interpreted by different bands. On one record Glenn Miller's version of 'Jingle Bells' is coupled to Alvino Rey's arrangement of 'Santa Claus Is Coming to Town.' Second disc has Benny Goodman doing 'Jingle Bells' and Tommy Dorsey's 'Santa Claus.'

Miller's recording is comparatively new, having been recorded last year. Goodman years ago.

It cost Ed. Bernstein \$300 to have a copy of Irving Berlin's 'My Irish Buddy' telephoned from London to New York, so that that would have a time in for it to be arranged for an Abe Lyman recording date. Lyman has the waxing recently and Oberstein already has copies of it on the market.

Since the melody was restricted, however, Lyman nor any of the disc jockeys could air it.

With one-nighters by top name bands few and far between for any individual promoter in the east, since the beginning of the war, Fred Kirsch, operator at Turner's Arena and Vline Arena, Washington, had three top outfits within six days. Beginning last Wednesday (14) he ran dances with Duke Ellington, Cab Calloway and Benny, including Benny Goodman.

Such a wealth of talent at one spot in less than a week is a rare occurrence these days, even on the Coast, where one-nighters are far more plentiful.

Musicians' salaries have skyrocketed since the start of the war due to the competition among leaders for good men. A case in point of bidding up a toter's pay.

Ray Hutton recently hired a sax player from Henry 'A' band. Before he started work at Miss Hutton, at \$200 weekly, he played in two venues a week. She said he had offered \$150. Few weeks later he went back to Miss Hutton for \$150.

Jimmy Cox, vocalist, formerly with Tommy Dorsey's is still under contract to that leader though he's now singing on WAAT, Jersey City. His connection with the station is in the nature of a firm-out proposition; Dorsey thought he needed more seasoning and experience and made a deal for him there. Cox airs five afternoons a week (Mon.-Fri.) 4:30-4:45.

Dorsey now has Teddy Waters, who was a guitar player with Gene Krupa's now disbanded orchestra.

Lonel Hampton's orch, which has appeared on the last two Sunday programs of 'Soldiers of Production,' Blue Network show sponsored by the War Manpower Commission, is first Negro band on the show. Commission plans to keep it on for several weeks.

## Williams' Record

Chicago, Dec. 14.

New long-run record was established in the Empire Room of the Palmer House last week when Cliff Williams' orch chalked up 38 consecutive weeks, beating the 36-week record hung up by Yoda and Yolanda in 1935-36.

When Williams departs on Jan. 12 for a tour for the identical record, Wilder's orchestra, he will have completed a total of 90 weeks in three engagements in the room in the last three years.

## Le Baron Army-Bound

Angelo, Dec. 14.

Eddie Le Baron, band leader and operator of the Trocadero niterdy, took a blood test as his first step toward induction into the Army and was absolved of a charge of evading the draft.

Under his original name, Eduardo Gasline, native of Venezuela, but an American citizen since 1936, Le Baron was sought by his New York draft board, but protested that he had never received an induction notice.

## BLUES TO AIR ESQUIRE AFFAIR AS COLA SHOW

Esquire mag's all-star jazz band, selected in a nationwide poll with trade publication editorials and others in the music world participating, will invade the hallowed Met Jan. 18, with a two-hour concert, part of which goes coast-to-coast on the Blue Network.

Radio hookup on the concert will set portion of the program picked up by Blue notes as Esquire's spotlight band program. Esquire is planning a literature campaign to accompany the promotion and to publish brochures explaining how selections were made, etc., and containing biogs of each musician and lists of records on which they can be heard.

The all-star band is a promotional venture of Esquire, which has claim to be the first slick to publish an article on jazz, back 10 or more years ago. Esquire's status as a sponsor to Hollywood's Oscars and known as 'Esquire' will go to the chosen musicians.

# Ellington's Carnegie Hall Reprise

## Another Memorable Evening of Jazz

By DON WALSH

Neither the illness of two key players nor the sanctified atmosphere of Carnegie Hall put the brakes on Duke Ellington Saturday night (13) when he and his coterie of stand-out jazz musicians played a return engagement at the great air-raid shelter of the longhairs. The program, except for the lullidating National Anthem, was a well-balanced Ellingtonian palette to the delight of a capacity audience which overflows the spacious auditorium of several rows of seats surrounding the band on the platform.

The Duke premed 'New World A-Coming,' his own brainchild suggested by the closing passages of Rollin's 'Beauregard,' which proved to be an unpretentious but pleasant and generous slice of Ellington featuring his piano and backed up by a low-register clarinet in the opening phases and other soloists ash full band backdrops later on. Deliberately, as explained by the Duke—always a proponent of ceremonies by the way—it's an attempt to express the mood of his music, the feeling facing future in America. The new composition captured effectively the feeling of the nation and it hoped the audience would find. Ellington, 'without doubt, will find the material an expansive and work for two or three popular songs to add to his catalog of hits.

This catalog provided the backbone of the concert, with the Ellington tunes, even those dating back to the 1930's, sounded as fresh and distinctive Saturday night as though they were hot from Tin Pan Alley. The Duke gave them 'Take Me to the Train,' 'Moon Mist,' 'Written for You,' Mercer, '24-hour Army Privilege,' 'Get Around,' 'Ring Dem Bells,' 'Jack the Bear,' 'Black and Tan Fantasy,' 'Rockin' in Rhythm,' 'I'm Gonna Give You Love,' and close with 'Things Ain't What They Used to Be'—a riff tune also written by him.

For good measure, the composer-leader presided at the piano for a number of the program, including 'A Warm Winning Composition,' during which he spotlighted 'Sophisticated Lady,' 'I'm Gonna Give You Love,' and others. The audience loved it.

One of the brightest spots of the evening came when the talents of the late George Gerwin, Ellington, the latter's sightless vocalist, all joined in a vocal duet, 'You Hear from Me,' formerly the instrumental 'Concerto for Cootie,' who was stand-out. Many of the programmed numbers were included in his original Carnegie concert.

Source doesn't permit the listing of all the soloists—every member of the band got his chance to shine and no one missed. Only Jimmie and chipper Betty Rebo, sidelined by illness were missed. Harold Barker's trumpet variations on 'Stardust' and Tricky Sam's several trombones' used the brass section, closely followed by Rex Stewart, Nance and Lawrence Brown. Johnny Hodges, of course, was tops in the reed department.

Also on the program were excerpts from 'Black, Brown and Beige,' Ellingtonian introduced at the band's first Carnegie Hall concert last January.

## GLEN ISLAND MAY

### RESUME IN SPRING

Glen Island Casino, New Rochelle, N. Y., expects to reopen next spring. No definite moves toward unshuttering the spot, such as refurbishing or making bids for music, have been made, but its operators have signified an intention to resume.

Glen Island's last attempt in business occurred last spring. Sy Shribman, New England ballroom operator, took it over and installed Joe Marsala's band under a ballroom style of operation. Attempt didn't last long, mainly because the pleasure driving ban was still on in the east.

Red Norvo was given a 4-P classification at the N. Y. induction center after a physical Saturday (11).

## Ellington's Concert B.O.

Duke Ellington promoted his Carnegie Hall, N. Y., concert Saturday (11) himself and drew \$4200 as his end of the total gross of \$5300. It was generally unknown the leader operated the affair himself, taking the gamble on the N. Y. first concert there, last February, was for Russian Relief.

Ellington repeated his Carnegie concert at Boston's Symphony Hall Sunday (12). This was promoted by a local operator and it grossed \$4600. Ellington took out \$2300 as his end of a 50% deal.

## Files Suit Vs.

### 802's 1% Tax

Alfred Manuti, member of N. Y. Local 802 of the American Federation of Musicians, has filed suit in N. Y. supreme court, Queens County, against Jacob Rosenberg, as president of 802, in an effort to legally force repeal of the 1% tax regulation voted on and passed at the union's general meeting last September. This 1% tax levy demands members pay that percentage of all earnings, including officials of 802, into a general fund.

In his suit Manuti claims the tax regulation is illegal, in that 802's by-laws state such an amendment cannot be voted on at any but the annual April meeting. It was proposed, voted on and okayed, above his objections, at the September general meeting. In the papers, filed last week, he asserts this discrepancy was brought to the attention of the Executive Board of the parent American Federation of Musicians and that after a hearing that Board rejected his complaint, deciding the tax regulation was okay.

Horace Henderson discharged from the Army (he's 39) and is back at the keyboard in brother Fletcher's band. Unit, now touring southern territory, plans stop off for few one-nighters in New York before opening at Boston's Tin-Toc next month.

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'Post-War Show Business  
Edition'

## Slack in Navy, Orch Disbands

Freddie Slack enlisted in the Navy last week by the expedient of asking his draft board to put his name at the top of the list of prospective inductees. He goes into service on the Coast this Fri (17), after which his band will break up.

Slack's career was short, but stormy. After his initial success via Capitol recordings he was the subject of a drive-out agency contract dispute between Music Corp. of America and the William Morris agency, which he was due to break up his band once during this dispute and because of it, later reorganizing. Several times he was due to come ashore to cash in on the b.o. stature his bands built up, but each time cancelled out.

## Only Glen Gray May Be Left of Casa Loma Band After This Week

Glen Gray may be left as the sole surviving member of the original Casa Loma orchestra after this week. Clarence Hutchinson, sax-clarinett, and Stanley Dennis, bass, have filed notice of leaving and Tony Braglia, drummer, got his induction later this week. These three are the last of the cooperative original group and, like the members who previously bowed out, will receive their cash shares of the band's earnings.

Band is now at the Strand in N. Y., moving out soon to make way for Charles Barnet. Both Hutchinson and Dennis intend remaining in N. Y.

# Metro-Capitol-Par, N. Y. Date Snarl

## Now Involves T. Dorsey's Ford Show

## Roxy Dancers Now Warbling With Tucker

Trio of singers Tommy Tucker installed with his band coincident with the outfit's opening at Frank Daley's Terrace Room, Newark, N. J., Friday (10) are all ex-amateurs, two having been culled from the Roxy, N. Y., line of dancers during Tucker's stay there. Janet Dinell and Rita O'Donoghue are the former Roxyettes, while the third is Mary Ann Wayne, a former Frank Sinatra singer who took first place in one of Abe Lowy's singing contests during that band's stay at Daley's in October.

Amey Arnell, Tucker's vocalist for years, left the band recently to do a gig. Current at the Ring then, Baltimore, she opens at Lewis' State, N. Y., tomorrow (Thursday) and the same evening goes into La Martinique, N. J.

## Army Now Has Over 800 Bands

Washington, Dec. 14.  
Army now has well over 800 authorized bands, War Department reports. Average unit is 28 men, with cost of instruments for each outfit about \$3,000. While marching music is the prime purpose, each band has in it one or more dance orchestras to play at camp entertainments. Army regulations authorize 46 different instruments for use in these bands, plus about 600 musical supply items and accessories.

Government reports that its armed musicians are hard on instruments and that an average of 1,000 a year are sent back to Quartermaster Depots for repair and maintenance.

## Herb Fields Rehearsing

Herb Fields' new orchestra is rehearsing in N. Y. currently, composed of six brass, five sax, and three trombones. Outfit is not tied to any booking agency and has no dates lined up as yet.

Fields is former Sgt. leader of the post band at Camp Dix, N. J. He recently was given a medical discharge. Before going into service more than two years ago he was clarinetist with many top bands.

Tommy Dorsey-Metro-Capitol and Paramount theatre, N. Y., situation broke away open for the first time that Dorsey is being 'requested' to forego one of two signed contracts with the Paramount an, to play one contracted date at the opposition Capitol on schedule during 1944.

Dorsey has a six-weeks-week Ford program, which he is debut Jan. 10 in the 8-8:15 p.m. slot on the Blue Network. According to sources involved, Dorsey's film contract with Metro means only one commercial broadcast a week with the ban-

Do more than that requires special permission from the film company. On this basis Music Corp. of America, Dorsey's bookers, has been petitioning the N.Y. state attorney general of the second agreement he has to play there or, at least, to let him go to the Cap first during the coming year and then go back to the Par.

The new movie film company can force Dorsey off the Ford show otherwise, Ford contract is signed. Dorsey opens the first of the two commitments at the Paramount next Wednesday (22). After that he owes the Par. first in a key position, conflicts with the Cap contract, also calling for an appearance in 1944. This contract was signed on the Coast last August following Dorsey from Metro, which has the leader on a seven-year film pact.

Paramount has a right in the dispute. It has two signed agreements and is not involved in the Par. first in a key position, that it is being pressured by MCA to let Dorsey loose of the second agreement, Capitol booking office (Loew's, Inc., parent company of Loew-Metro setup), has a contract on the Par. first in a key position, that it is effective after Dorsey finishes the forthcoming date at the Par. For as long as the call on Dorsey for his next two Broadway dates.

## N. Y. TOWN HALL JAZZ CONCERTS WILL RESUME

Promoters of last season's Town Hall jazz concerts are coming back for more, even though the Saturday afternoon venture was not a success financially when last attempted. Ernie Anderson, Factory agency exec, who piloted last series, has announced first program will be staged Dec. 18, with three others, to follow.

Presentations will follow same outline, with outstanding jazz performers, in uniform and out, being presented informally without strict program limitations.

## Garber Follows Basie Into N.Y. Lincoln Hotel

Jan Garber's orchestra has been booked into the Lincoln hotel, N. Y., for eight weeks beginning Jan. 2. He will make one Pitch Bandstand shot and two Coca-Cola broadcasts during the run. This is Garber's initial N. Y. hotel job with his new jump band, though he played four weeks recently at Frank Daley's Terrace Room, Newark. Band is currently at the Rostand Ballroom, N. Y.

Count Basie is current at the Lincoln.

## Honor Madriguera

Washington, Dec. 14.  
Ambassadors and Ministers of the Latin American republics honored Enric Madriguera Tuesday (13) here for his efforts to advance Pan Americanism through music. Recognition was in the form of a parchment scroll, which contained the signature of the president of the United States, signed by the undersigned, do elect Sr. Enric Madriguera the Musical Ambassador of the Americas.

Band is currently at the Commodore hotel, New York. Madriguera claims an intention to form a Pan American symphony, composed of S. A. musicians, to tour the Latin countries sometime in the future.

38th ANNIVERSARY  
VARIETY

★  
POST-WAR  
SHOW BUSINESS  
NUMBER  
★

# J. Dorsey Solid \$44,000, Tops Chi; Himmer 23G, Hub, Hutton 22½G, D.C.

(Estimates for This Week)  
**Bob Chester**, San Francisco (Golden Gate): 2,650; 55-110—With Marion Hutton, on stage, and "No Time for Love" (Ira). With week-end last night (Tuesday), second for Himmer and fifth for Dorsey. Total \$44,000 mainly on band's appeal.  
**Jimmy Dorsey**, Chicago (Chicago): 4,000; 50-45—Plus "Hi Diddle" (Ira). Total \$40,000 mainly on band's appeal.  
**Glenn Gray**, New York (Strand): 2,000; 55-110—With Willie Howard in person and "Northern Pursuit" (W.B.) 34 week. Only moderate \$35,000 or thereabouts but holds.  
**Woody Herman**, New York (Paramount): 3,600; 55-110—With Marion Hutton, on stage, and "No Time for Love" (Ira). With week-end last night (Tuesday), second for Himmer and fifth for Dorsey. Total \$40,000 mainly on band's appeal.

**Richard Himmer**, Boston (RKO Boston): 3,200; 44-99—Plus "Buster Head and Lucille Page, Ziggy Talent, Ernest Healy, other vocalists and "Crazy House" (U). Seasonal demand under way about \$23,000. Likelihood of a Boston show in the New England comedy and Himmer band.

**Les Kay**, Hutton, Chicago (Chicago): 3,000; 50-75—With "Happy Land" (D.C.). So-so \$22,000 but may consider conditions in it.

**Ad. Leinard**, Baltimore (Oriental): 3,200; 31-60—With "Something About Soldier" (C.C.). Smooth \$19,000.  
**Ed. Leonard**, Baltimore (Hippodrome): 2,240; 17-60—With "Adventures in Romance" (C.C.) and "The Girl in the Army Airline". Stage layout carrying load to furnish \$14,000.

**Vaughan Monroe**, Providence (Metropolitan): 3,200; 30-59—With "Deer-legged" (Rop). Her \$6,000 in three-weekend run, weathering hug.

**Russ Morgan**, Indianapolis (Circle): 2,800; 30-55—Gangway for Tomorrow (RKO) and acts. Band getting good swell notices but mild \$11,000. Christmas slump being in.

**Louis Prima**, Omaha (Orpheum): 3,000; 20-65—With "This Is Washington" (RKO). Prima getting small help from film, with this \$11,000. Whole town off.

**Jan Strydom**, Pittsburgh (Savoy): 3,800; 30-75—With Frank Sinatra and Falcon Co-Eds' (RKO). Band of course, can hardly be considered major b.o. but with "The Voice" the big size. And not so big at the big size, this being rated a disappointment. Boys did point out that Savitt outfit is best he's had here.

**Raymond Scott**, New York (Capitol): 4,820; 35-61; 10—With Ben Wein, Jackie Miles and Al. Dorsey's band and "Girl Crazy" (RKO). Currently in final \$22 week, looking strong \$56,000 or over.

**Charlie Spivak**, Cleveland (Palace): 3,700; 35-55—With "Paris After Dark" (20th), and Patricia Morrison on Snow and mid film blamed for failure \$18,500.

**Jerry Wald**, Newark (Adams): 1,900; 35-90—With "Here Comes Elmer" (Rep) and stage show headed by Perry Como. Total \$16,500. Perry Como being rated big help in pre-Xmas bids.

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## STAN KELLER CLAIMS 10G B.R. FOR NEW BAND

Stan Keller, leader of the Townsmen quartet, claims to have \$10,000 worth of financing to underwrite the full-sized orchestra he will begin building after the first of the year. Keller, a player, formerly was with Carmen Cavallaro's orchestra.

## On the Upbeat

**Rube Rusin**, Jimmy Dorsey sax, has been auditioned in California and gone into the Army next week.

**Dana Phelps** has replaced Penny Pate as vocalist with Al Donahue's orchestra.

**Reid Jaynes**, Jr., pianist with Billy Yates unit at Hotel Roosevelt, Pittsburgh, the son of the late Reid Jaynes, who directed orchestra for years at Pitt's old Davis theatre during his heyday as a two-day dancer.

**Gone Hamid**, arranger for Gracie Bland, arranged to NBC arranging staff, full time. Before joining Miss Barrie he was with NBC part time.

**Les Brown's** band, currently doing one-nighters on the Coast, checks in at Paramount Dec. 27 for "Bring on the Girls".

**Hugo Winterhalter**, arranger, joined Tommy Dorsey's band permanently. He was formerly with Vaughn Monroe.

**Don Haynes**, former Glenn Miller arranger, is 24 and stationed at New Haven, where Miller also bases his Air Force band. Haynes is in radio production.

**Lester Young** rejoined Count Basie's band. Young, trumpet, no relation, leaves band, replaced by Al Tilton.

**Jack Tarsander's** band checked in at Universal to play in "Has Anybody Here Seen Kelly?"

**Joe Sanders** opened two-week engagement at Vogue Theatre, Pittsburgh, Saturday (11), replacing the Bob Strong outfit.

## Band Review

**JACK EDWARDS BAND (14)**  
 Glenn Hall, New York.

Having started as a band leader in his Duke University undergraduate days several years ago, Jack Edwards, who is 24, is in the band's only uncertain times of constant shifting personnel, which he is prohibitive for a band build-up. Edwards is off the stand during the show, one of the violinists handling the act. Kahn.

## British Best Sheet Sellers

(Week Ending Dec. 2, 1943)  
 If I Had My Way...C. C. Sonnecking Waltz...C. C. Sunday, Monday...Victoria My Eyes...Southern...Wing and Prayer...Francis, Day Someday Meet Chappell Silver Wings...Dah...This Is Army...Chappell In Blue of Evening...C. C.

## Music Notes

**Jimmy McHugh** and **Harold Adamson** drew the scoring job on "New Orleans" at the first under their new contract at 20th-Fox.

**Charles Previn** set his musical director for the Charles R. Rogers film, "Song of the Open Road".

**Johnny Burke** and **Jimmy Van Heusen** are writing tunes for "The Fox" at 20th-Fox.

**Erling Wolfgang Korngold** composing score for "Between the World & War".

**Milton Rosen** and **Everett Carter** are writing tunes for "The Girl in the Army Airline".

**Harry Revel** and **Walter Chappell** are writing tunes for "The Girl in the Army Airline".

**Arthur Schwartz** and **Howard Dietz** collaborated on four new numbers for "The Band Wagon" at 20th-Fox.

**Sergei Ben** and **George Gershwin** are writing tunes for "The Girl in the Army Airline".

**Kay Thompson** sold "She's My Target" to 20th-Fox, to be used in a film.

**Constantin Bakaleinikoff** checked in at RKO to compose the score for Eddie Cantor's "Ship" tunes.

**Dave Bernie** is new manager of California office for Santy-Joy music publishers.

**Arthur Franklin** supervising the score for "Rainbow Island" at Paramount.

**Alfred Newman** doing the scoring job on "The Sullivan" at 20th-Fox.

**Judy Williams** succeeded Helen Forrest as vocalist with Harry James' orchestra.

**Walter Schaff** composing original score for "The Fighting Seabees" at Republic.

**Johnny Burke** and **Jimmy Van Heusen** signed to write tunes for the "The Girl in the Army Airline", "The Girl in the Army Airline", "The Girl in the Army Airline".

**Sammy Davis Jr.** is writing tunes for "The Girl in the Army Airline", "The Girl in the Army Airline", "The Girl in the Army Airline".

**Sammy Davis Jr.** is writing tunes for "The Girl in the Army Airline", "The Girl in the Army Airline", "The Girl in the Army Airline".

## Band Bookings

**Bob Allen**, Dec. 26, Mecca Temple, Scranton, Pa.; 27, City and, Fredrickburg, Md.; 29-30, Polo Theatre, Waterbury, Conn.; 31, Sunnybrook B, Potomac, Md.

**Mike Ayres**, Dec. 24, week, Circle theatre, New Orleans; 31, Maxwell field, Montgomery, Ala.; Jan. 1, week, Riverside theatre, Milwaukee.

**Gracie Barrie**, Jan. 7, week, Circle theatre, Indianapolis; 14, Palace theatre, Akron-Yongstown.

**Benny Carter**, Dec. 24, week, Regal theatre, Chicago; 31, Arroyo, Lakeville, Ky.; Jan. 1, Memorial Hall, Springfield, O.; 7, week, Paradise theatre, Detroit.

**Al Dexter**, Dec. 26, Broadway theatre, Springfield, Mass.

**Glenn Gray**, Dec. 31, week, 2, State theatre, Hartford; 6, week, Boston theatre, Boston; 14, week, Paramount theatre, Toledo.

**Louis Jordan**, Dec. 24, Miramar B, Gary, Ind.; 25, Savoy B, Chicago; 26, Sunset Theatre, Indianapolis; 27, Arroyo, Lakeville, Ky.; 28, City and, Dayton; 28, Nu-Elms B, Youngs-

## Bands at Hotel B. O.'s

(Presented herewith, as a weekly tabulation, is the estimated cover charge business being by name bands in various New York hotels. Dinner business (7-10 p.m.) noted. Figures after amount of hotel give room capacity and cover charge. Larger amount designates weekend and holiday peak. Completion is based on period from Monday to Saturday.)

Band	Hotel	Cover	Total
Billie Holiday	Biltmore	\$400; \$1-15.00	150
Billie Holiday	Lexington	\$300; 75c-\$1.50	98
Benny Goodman	New Yorker	\$400; \$1-15.00	9
Tommy Dorsey	Pennsylvania	\$300; \$1-15.00	10
Leo Reisman	Waldorf	\$300; 75c-\$1.50	10
Count Basie	Lincoln	\$275; \$1-15.00	5
Tommy Dorsey	Lincoln	\$275; \$1-15.00	5
Eric Madriguera	Commodore	\$400; \$1-15.00	4
Abe Lyman	Essex House	\$300; \$1-15.00	3

\*Asterisks indicate a supporting floor show. New Yorker and Biltmore have ice shows. Waldorf has the Hartmanns, Anniversary Dickey.

## Chicago

**Griff Williams** (Empire Room, Palmer House; 750; \$3-\$250 min.). Eased off considerably but Williams still big draw with fine 4,000.

**Jimmy Joy** (New Walnut Room, Bismarck Hotel; \$45; \$10-\$250 min.). Joy, augmented by small floor show drew good \$400.

**Johnny Long** (Panther Room, Sherman Hotel; \$50; \$10-\$250 min.). Long holding patronage around excellent 8,000.

**Billie Holiday** (Mayfair Room, Blackstone Hotel; \$25; \$10 min.). Bondhus and Carl Brisson still drawing near capacity with 3,500.

**Al Oliver** (Marline Room, Edgewater Beach Hotel; 1,100; 50c. and 75c. cover charge, plus \$1.25 min.). Oliver keeps bringing 'em in. Last week hit 7,000.

## Los Angeles

**Freddy Martin** (Ambassador; \$80; \$1-\$1.50). Slightly off with rest of town due to rainstorms and pre-holiday lull. At that will get up to 3,000 covers.

**Joe Reichman** (Biltmore; \$80; \$1-\$1.50). Come rain or snow Reichman keeps Bob comfortably filled. Close to 4,000 takes.

## Location Jobs, Not in Hotels

## Los An

**Teddy Powell** (Paladium B, Hollywood, second week). Helped by turnout of 4,500 at the Hollywood Guild Canine, benefit. Clocks on the week at 4,000.

**Frankie Marshall** (Trianon, 8, Southgate, second week). Not too badly affected by the slump and should skim past 6,500 paces.

**Phil Harris** (Slappy Max's in Los Angeles, sixth week). No slackening of pace here and 5,500 in prospect.

## (Chicago)

**Lou Breese** (Chez Paree; 650; \$3-\$3.50 min.). Still the town's real hot spot with Breese and Gertrude Nienke responsible for around 5,700.

**Frank Sinatra** (Black and White, 4, 500; \$1-\$2.25 min.) Courtney going over nicely here with patronage sticking to near record 6,100.

## 100 Best Sellers on Coin-Machines

(Records below are grabbing most nickels this week in jukeboxes throughout the country as reported by operators to Variety. Names of more than one band or vocalist after the title indicates, in order of popularity, whose recordings are being played. Figures and names in parenthesis indicate the number of weeks each song has been in the hit lists and respective publishers.)

1. Pistol Poppin' Mama (19) (Mills)	11. Bing Crosby	21. Decca
2. People Will Say (12) (Crawford)	12. Bing Crosby	22. Decca
3. Beautiful Morning (19) (Crawford)	13. Frank Sinatra	23. Columbia
4. Victory Polla (5) (Chappell)	14. Frank Sinatra	24. Columbia
5. My Heart Tells Me (3) (BVC)	15. Andrews-Crosby	25. Decca
6. Sunday, Monday, Always (17) (Mayfair)	16. Glen Gray	26. Decca
7. For First Time (3) (Shapiro)	17. Bing Crosby	27. Decca
8. Put Arms Around Me (17) (Broadway)	18. Dick Kuhn	28. Decca
9. They're Either Young (1) (Witmark)	19. Dick Kuhn	29. Decca
10. I'll Be Home Xmas (1) (Melrose)	20. Jimmy Dorsey	30. Decca

## OTHER FAVORITES

(These records are directly below first 10 in popularity)  
 Paper Doll (28) (Mills).....Mills Bros.....Decca  
 White Xmas (Berlin).....Bing Crosby.....Decca

Shoo-Shoo Baby (Leeds).....Andrews Sisters.....Decca  
 Cuddle Up Closer (Harms).....Jan Garber.....Decca  
 How Sweet You Are (Remick).....Kay Armen.....Decca  
 Boogie-Woogie.....Tommy Dorsey.....Victor

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# 'Ice Follies' Does 250G N. Y. Gross

'Ice Follies' grossed \$250,000 during the Shipstad-Johnson skating revue's engagement at Madison Square Garden, N. Y., which ended Saturday (11). 'Date' was a week longer than last year, extending into the pre-Christmas slump period. That accounts for the final performer's takings being \$12,000, whereas on the previous two Saturday nights, the gate was between \$29,000 and \$30,000 each. 'Follies' is currently in New Haven, says off the first five days next week and opens on Christmas in Philadelphia.

Sonia Henie and her Hollywood Ice Revue will open at the Garden, Jan. 18. It's in for two weeks, double last year's engagement. Actually Miss Henie will appear for 15 nights terminating Feb. 4, there being a three-day lapse in the booking from Jan. 27 to Jan. 30.

Wirtz plans to present the Henie show in Los Angeles for 10 weeks, appearing this year. 'Revue' emanates from there but the opening was in Indianapolis, as previously. Wirtz is having off after playing De Troit last week, resuming at the Chicago Stadium Christmas eve (24).

Woody Herman band down for a transcription date at World Broadcast Jan. 8, just before leaving for California to do a U. A. film.

## N. Y. AGVA SIGNS JERSEY, B'KLYN CAFES

The New York local of the American Guild of Variety Artists has signed the Melody Club, Union City, N. J., to a class 'B' agreement, first call for \$55 for principals and \$35 for the chorus. This marks the first split in Northern New Jersey to be signed as result of AGVA's concerted efforts in that area.

Locally, the Embassy Club, Brooklyn, was packed on principal's call for \$50 for principals and \$30 for the chorus.

## Stone's 'Sensations'

**Film Strewn With 17  
Vaude, Circus Acts**

Hollywood, Dec. 14. Total of 17 vaude and circus acts have been lined up by Andrew Stone for his film musical, 'Sensations of 1944', to be released by United Artists. The picture is being performed by principals in the story, such as W. C. Fields, Eleanor Powell, and Sophie Tucker, together with two bands led by Woody Herman and Cab Calloway.

'Sensations' will be a circus ballet designed by David Levine, who will also go into a dance with Miss Powell, Dorothy Donegan and Gene Rogers, duck swing pianists who wind up the picture. Mel Hall, trick cyclist, The Johnsons, jugglers; Hubert Caille, slack wire walker; The Copelanders, roller skaters; The Christians, acrobats; Pat Henning, comic; Uncle Willie and the Palmbearers; and the Palmbearers and Beans and Capt. Meyer's educated horse.

## BAKER'S THROAT HURTS, CANCELS PHILLY DATE

A throat ailment has forced Phil Baker to cancel one vaudeville date and delay plans for several others. The comedian will continue with his CBS-Everett quizzer, 'Take It or Leave It', every Sunday.

Baker's cancellation at the Erie Playhouse, where he was to open Dec. 31 for a week, isn't expected to have any effect on a commitment to play the Roxy, New York, later in the winter. The latter was set for Jan. 19, but has been pushed back to allow for his sufficient recovery.

## 'Icecapades' Sock 106G In 5 Toronto Showings

'Icecapades' of 1944 grossed a terrific estimated \$100,000 here for five performances (Dec. 6-10), with Maj. Gardens (13,500-seater) scaled at \$3 top. The fee of the performances were sellout.

## Joins Moe Gale

Sam Fishnick, road manager of the Inkspots, leaves that position this week to join the Moe Gale talent agency as salesman and assistant to Gale. Agency handles the Inkspots. Murray Modell replaces Fishnick with the Spots.

## Saranac

By Harry Bewers  
Saranac Lake, N. Y., Dec. 14. Mathea Merrifield, formerly of Lou Walter's Latin Quarter, revues, has progressed so well that she is now entertaining and spreading good cheer among many other patients. Helen Ingles fishing good reports and adding pounds.  
Margo Meredith, defense stamp saleslady at the Will Rogers, has been named to the War Relocation Authority committee of defense stamp and bond sales.  
Hazel Smith is Santa's aide this year in making up Xmas packages for the needy. Carl Kern will play Santa this year.  
Burt Williams leads the phrenic operation and shows good signs for a comeback.  
Rufus Weathers now up for meals and exercise after long siege of bed convalescence.

Oscar Price and Joyce Cowan expect their littlest home soon. Both are now shoppers for the gang.  
Alice Farley mastered the phrenic operation.  
Ann Comerford hoping she can get around to attend her daughter's wedding.  
Edwin Boyer, formerly with Maryland, Baltimore, here getting that checkup at the Trudeau sanatorium. Wylie to those who are ill.

## Yachters Renewed

San Francisco, Dec. 14. Slippy Maxie has renewed the Yacht Clubs boys until after the Yule season.

There will be some minor changes made in the show for Christmas week.

## Russell Partners In Fight Over Profits, Sue for Dissolution

Los Angeles, Dec. 14. Jack Joyce and Lou Brier filed suit against Arthur C. Russell, asking dissolution of their partnership as owners of the Russell Brothers Circus, which they bought last June for \$50,000.

Plaintiffs charge Concello with rendering an "incalculable and incorrect" accounting of the profits of the show. They ask a complete accounting and a receiver to settle the circus and divide the proceeds among the partners.

## DEXTER TRIGGERS HIS MGR., CARLOS CASTEL

At Dexter and Carlos Castel, his manager, split last week during Dexter's run at the Capitol theatre, N. Y. It's asserted that Dexter bought back Castel's management contract for \$1,000, but this figure is unconfirmed. Act is signed by GAC.

Dexter has been playing a string of theatres in the midwest and east on the strength of his 'Fistful Packin' Mims', at \$250 per week.

## 2 Philly Vaude Spots Sign New AFM Pacts

Philadelphia, Dec. 14. Local 77, American Federation of Musicians, last week announced it had signed new contracts with Fay's and Carman, both vaudeillers under the co-management of Sam Siegel and Eddie Sherman.

Fay's was re-signed at the same terms as the old contract while the Carman contract did away with the 15% wage cut in effect during the summer months. The orchestra is also to receive \$7.50 per week per man extra for stage appearances.

## AGVA Eliminates 'D' Scale for 'C' in Philly

Philadelphia, Dec. 14. The American Guild of Variety Artists last week announced the elimination of the 'D' scale in its bylaws effective Jan. 1. All spots, herebefore class D with a \$37 weekly minimum, will be placed in the 'C' category, with the minimum stipend for performers at \$43 less 10% for agents.

The scale for two-day club dates was raised from \$16.50 to \$18 net.

## Dante's 96, Toronto

Toronto, Dec. 14. Back for his second engagement here this season, Dante, the magician, scored an excellent \$9,000 at the Royal Alexandra, with 1,325 seats scaled at \$2 top.

After splitting the week of Dec. 13 in London and Hamilton, magician returns to the Royal for the week Dec. 20.

## Curfew Hits San Antonio

San Antonio, Dec. 14. The Texas Curfew, which prohibits the sale of liquor after midnight, is playing havoc with local night spots. Just as the evening is getting started, comes the order to remove all glasses, setups, and drinks from the customers tables.

Spots are finding less customers coming in late but the evening starting early. Spots are as a rule all closing around 1 o'clock due to lack of biz.

## SET MILLS FOR N. Y. CAP.

Mills brothers have been set for the Capitol, N. Y., their first vaude date on Broadway in some time. Group is booked with Lionel Hampton's orchestra and opening Jan. 16, at \$2,500 weekly.

Mills have been laying off for weeks, first because of their inability to replace the drafted Harry Mills and later due to the illness of Herb Mills, who was in the hospital for several weeks with a throat ailment. They return to work tomorrow (18) at RKO Boston, Boston.

# AGVA and ARA Near Deal on Nat'l Franchising of All Talent Agents

The American Guild of Variety Artists and the Artists Representatives Assn. have worked out an agreement which would ultimately force all agents to join one of the reputable agent associations. The move is designed to take in agents on a national scale.

The award, which calls for recognition by AGVA of the reputable agent associations, has been in the discussion stage for two years and not consummated because of the many details that had to be ironed out. The only agent organizations already recognized by AGVA are the ARA, Associated Agents of America and Entertainment Managers Assn. Agreement further specifies that AGVA set up a system of agent franchises and charge a fee for these franchises equal or greater than membership fees of the aforementioned agents' groups. A franchise is automatically granted to the members of the agents' associations. Also being worked out is the problem of agents who have exclusive booking rights in certain night spots.

The franchise system is expected to work in such a way as to force the agents into one of the associations, since the AGVA fees would be such as to make it worthwhile for an agent to join an agents group and get the additional benefits.

From rather than just paying an AGVA franchise fee. AGVA officials point out that they feel justified in

setting up this fee policy, because through the associations they can work out the problems that arise in bookings with a minimum of effort and expense. If there is something wrong they just get in touch with one of the association execs and the headache is then the latter's while AGVA isn't bothered until the matter is settled. AGVA feels that any agent who requires assistance should be willing to pay for it, either through the franchise fee or membership in an organization recommended by AGVA.

In the matter of exclusive booking privileges, it's expected that the booker enjoying that advantage will be limited to 5% commission, while the agent handling the act will get his usual 10%. As things stand now, an act isn't permitted to pay more than 10% commission and when an agent with a monopoly on a spot demands 10% the act's regular agent either has to forego his payment or turn down the engagement. By setting up the new system AGVA will get around this situation by permitting the act to pay 15%-5% to the agent with exclusive booking rights and 10% to the act's regular agent. This is an accepted practice in vaudeville, where theatre booking offices charge acts a 5% booking fee.

Final details on the agreement are being worked out by Matt Shelve, national proxy of AGVA, Mort Rosenthal, AGVA's attorney, and Sam Shayan, secretary of the ARA.

## GAYLE ROBBINS

Mistress of Ceremonies  
Currently 12th Week  
GLASS HAT, N. Y.

GAYLE ROBBINS, top flight as Mistress of Ceremonies... she also sings personally... a personality.

KAHN, 'VAIRITY'  
... she and her lovely Gayle Robbins, Mistress of Ceremonies, trades graciously to a well-balanced show.

VIRGINIA FORBES, N. Y. Sun  
Personal Management... Belmont House Hotel, N. Y.

## CAPPELLA & PATRICIA

are a sister-acting duo who, together with their vaudeville singing and impersonal overtones and novel material. The Patricia half of the team is a surprisingly beautiful girl and the Capella half... she will... W. Kaufman.

## HELD OVER EIGHTH WEEK

Featured in "YOURS FOR FUN"

MUSIC BOX THEATRE, H'wood

## KATHRYN DUFFY

Now 11th Week

GLASS HAT, N. Y.

Thanks to FRANK LAW

HAT, H'wood, BELMONT PLAZA

DANCERS

Now 11th Week

GLASS HAT, N. Y.

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## That Ole Carny Con

Afloat,' by Eustace L. Adams, acquired by Paramount and 'C

**bana, Chi** | she literally stops the  
superstitions, which

**Currently  
U.S.O. TOUR**









## Dream Street Beat

CIO's "Marching With Johnny" has gone through almost a complete change of material since opening in Newark Nov. 22. Humphrey-Weidman is restaging the dances. New York opening is skedded for Dec. 29 at the City Center.

# Maybe They're Bashful

Pittsburgh, Dec. 14.

Chilliness of legit first-nighters in Pittsburgh is getting to be a legend. Last season when Katharine Cornell production of "Three Sisters" opened there at Nixon, some in the audience complained that they couldn't hear much of the dialog. Told this by a stage manager before the acts, Miss Cornell cracked back: "Tell the audience we can't hear them either."

Much the same thing happened recently when "Billha Bill" played Pittsburgh. Night before show opened in Smoky City, several members of the cast put on a performance for wounded soldiers at an Army hospital. After first night, Clifton Webb wired his agent: "Last night we played to the wounded, tonight we played to the dead."

## Shuberts Boost Booking Advantage On B'way By Acquiring 3 More Houses

Shuberts' have strengthened their booking advantage on Broadway this season by the reputed acquisition of three more theatres, giving them the further advantage of exacting guarantees from producers. As indicated previously, stop limits have been filled and sharing terms more favorable to the theatres are secured in advance in booking contracts. As attractions must accept 60-40 straight on the gross instead of a sliding scale.

St. James, Ambassador and Forrest are the houses named as Shuberts' purchases. The purchase price was around \$350,000, regarded as a bargain buy. That transaction, however, was not unusual, additional requirement being that the Shuberts pay for each estate 50% of its box office profits during the theatre's run of "Oklahoma." That show is earning close to \$7,000 weekly, and although the house earnings are less because of the usual sharing terms, it's possible that the Shuberts may pay for the theatre out of the theatre's profits, the "Oklahoma" engagement being expected to be of long duration.

St. James, first called Erlanger's was built at a time when the firm of Erlanger & Erlanger split. Late A. L. Erlanger decided to erect the house in case the New Amsterdams, which they jointly owned and which was the ace musical comedy house, would be disposed of. Money for the theatre was raised by a bond subscription mostly disposed of in New Orleans by means of full-page ads. For years the St. James, which cost over \$1,000,000 to build, did not prove profitable, and the bonds were defaulted and the property finally reverted to the Astors for non-payment of bond interest.

**Girls' 4G Guarantee Flop**  
Two of the latest guarantee deals for Broadway shows were for "The Women" full of Girls' Royale, and "Victory Belles." Ambassador, both assuring the houses \$4,000 weekly for a minimum of four weeks each. "Belles" is a low-crossing show which resumed after being forced to suspend at the Manhattan, while "Girls" got small money during its seven-day date, which was abruptly terminated Sunday (12).

Threat of a theatre shortage for straight plays on Broadway, comparable with the threat for musicals, has resulted in heavy guarantees being imposed for number of shows. "Girls," written by Nunnally Johnson, was produced by Jed Harris with Hollywood backing. It got very little coin after the premiere, and with theatres facing declining attendance up to Christmas, Harris decided it would be less costly to fold. Unless another attraction is booked into the Royale the producer will be forced to pay \$10,000 to the Shuberts, who operate the Royale and Ambassador.

Bell applied to Equity for a cut salary arrangement for the four-week booking and it's understood the cast agreed to accept the minimum of \$57.50 per week plus a percentage if and when business improves.

**Honorably Discharged, Dollack Joins 'Prince'**

Toronto, Dec. 14.  
Arthur Dollack, 16, honorably discharged from the Lorne Scots Regiment after 18 months' service, joined the "Prince of Wales" company here and reputedly will take over one of the principal roles in a few weeks. Dollack sang in a bass and former soloist with the Eaton Memorial Church choir here. Parents took no steps to hinder his military career when he joined up at 16 after boosting his age.

### Now He Means It

William Hodge, young actor in the road company of "It's a Family," has undoubtedly reconciled his present induction into a line that he has in the play. Hodge's line refers to draft boards as being composed of stubborn men.

## Mall Moves To Offset 20% Tax

Refusal of the Senate Finance Committee to reduce the 20% admission tax in the new revenue bill, although consideration was given to enterprises outside of show business, is a main topic of discussion in legit circles, since that division of the theatre figures to be harder hit by the doubled impost than other places of admission because price scales are higher. There is a chance that the levy will be discussed and possibly revised on the floor before passage (Continued on page 53)

### Youmans Revue Opens In Newark on Jan. 21

Vincent Youmans' revue, tentatively called "Good Neighbor" and described as consisting of Cuban, South American concert and ballet, is dated to open at the Mosque, Newark, Jan. 21, with Baltimore and Washington to follow. As yet no Broadway spot has been secured. Revue, which will have another name, will have an orchestra of 60.

## 'Carmen' Raves in N. Y. Even Surprises Mgt.; Can Break at \$14,500

Press pundits accorded "Carmen Jones" upon its debut at the Broadway, N. Y., recently (Dec. 2) even surprised the management, although the Billy Rose production was rated highly out of town and attendance was encouraging, though not indicative of a sure-fire ditch. It was the third time recently for a major attraction to receive rave notices, "Winged Victory" having preceded "Carmen" to critical rhapsodies upon its premiere at the 44th Street. Ditto for "Voice of the Turtle," last week at the Marboro.

"Victory" reviews in Boston started on page one in four Hub papers and "Carmen" in similar situation in one daily there, as it did in Philadelphia, where the colored-cast operetta originally opened in New York City. "Carmen" premiere was given special attention on the first page of the Journal-American (Dec. 3), recognition being made at the suggestion of Wolfe Kaufman who is publicizing the new musical. The actual notice appeared in the drama section. The operetta figures to clean up.

It cost \$100,000 to produce "Carmen," which can break even at \$14,500 possible money capacity is around \$40,000, at \$4.40 top nightly and \$5.50 on Saturday. Largest payroll item is the orchestra, there being 40 men in the pit. Reports are that the last Broadway backstage is \$250, with \$200 the top figure for several singing leads.

### NO FILM MONEY IN TODD'S 'MEX HAYRIDE'

There is no picture company book-up as yet in Mike Todd's "Mex Hayride," although Paramount has been mentioned in this connection. Todd says he's indifferent about any need for it, because "then I'm inhibited by budgets, etc., whereas now I'm still \$170,000 in the box for the musical and I'm in the clinch for \$200,000. It's exactly one of those lush (get him) Broadway musicals, as of the good old days and if I had Hollywood money maybe they'd start to bother me."

Cast features Bobby Clark, June Haver, Wilbur Evans, Luba Malina, George Givot, Paul Haakon, Corinne Mure, Chandra-Kelly, Danvers, Edith Melner, Eva & Karl Reyes, among others. It's slated for the Imperial (one touch of Yanouf must move) on Broadway Jan. 19, after three and one-half weeks in Boston.

## Billy Rose, AFM Debate 'Carmen' Pay, Union Asks Higher Scale for 'Opera'

PAUL MOSS

(N. Y. License Commissioner)

D

### 'Protecting the Public'

VARIETY'S

38th Anniversary Number

(Post-War Show Business Edition)

## Settle 'Johnny' Union Row, Philly

Philadelphia, Dec. 14.

"Marching With Johnny" almost didn't march onto the stage of the Erlanger this week because of a row between the house management and Local 77, Musicians Union.

The local on Friday (10) notified branches of the CIO-sponsored musical revue that the show could not open Monday (13) unless the theatre had signed a new contract with the union. The old one had expired Saturday (12).

William Goldman, who operates the Erlanger, had balked at signing new pact with the tooters at the rate laid down by them. A full year's contract for a sixteen-man orchestra whenever the Erlanger is open. (Continued on page 53)

## 'Army Play By Play' Cast Back to Duty After Hub

Boston, Dec. 14.  
Soldier cast of "Army Play By Play," current at the White, returns to active military assignment following the run of the soldier-authored skills here on Dec. 16. Show finishes sixth month of run in Boston, having meantime covered plenty of territory since it began its tour outside N. Y. in early September. Of the 60 men in the company, 25 are in the orchestra.

Whether "Carmen Jones," Broadway, N. Y., is grand opera or musical comedy, between Billy Rose, who produced the new hit, and the musicians union. Latter contends that "Carmen" is more opera than that around the pit bunch should receive higher pay. Manager contends that "Carmen" is more opera and that the usual musical comedy scale should apply.

Understand the union has designated "Carmen" as class B opera, for which the orchestra scale is \$80 per week. That classification applies to "Rosindella," 40th Street, which is the only Broadway musical so rated. However, that opera coded its operatic standing when it opened by having under the direction of the American Guild of Musical Artists union covering opera and concert.

Regular Broadway musical scale is \$66 for men in the pit. However, managers are required to hold 5% additional in store, pending an appeal for pay increase which is awaiting action by the arbitration board and may be retroactive to the start of the season. Same applies for the operatic oratorio, which may increase the minimum to between \$92 and \$94. There are 40 men in the pit for "Carmen," and 25 in the orchestra. Having been used in "Rosindella," which now runs 38 men.

Budgeted for \$100,000 increase for the chorus of "Rosindella," and Lodewijk Vroom, who presents the show under the direction of the CIO, had recommended a 10% increase for a lesser personnel. Claimed that the "Carmen" orchestra had received \$46 weekly right along, and that the regular musical minimum. Increases in regular musicals in the chorus this season boosted the chorine pay to \$50.

## N.Y. TICKET BROKER UP ON SPECULATION RAP

Reports of gyring in theatre tickets for Broadway shows culminated Monday (13) in the arrest of Charles Moss, a downtown broker, alleged to have been speculating in tickets for a show, boxoffice price of which was \$5.50 each. Excess over the legal premium tax was around \$15.

Sale for a Saturday night performance was taken to a detective assigned by License Commissioner Paul Moss, no relative to the defendant, who operates Sussman's at 20 Broad street. Latter was in trouble earlier this season, and his license was suspended, the commissioner indicating that his namesake "bootlegged" tickets anyhow. The ticket man was held in bail of \$100 for hearing next Monday (20).

It's alleged by visitors from out of town that they have been charged as much as \$25 per pair of \$4.40 tickets for hit musicals, regular rate in the agencies being \$10.50 (\$8.50 plus \$1.50 premium and 11% tax). Such sales are claimed to have been made through so-called "material" agencies, which obtain tickets in the regular way from agencies like the average patron, according to reports. Same term, however, is applied to some theatre parties.

None of the leading upstart agencies has been involved in gyring, but it is known that one of the small brokers has been summoned to explain to the legit ticket code enforcement board recent overcharging. It is the third or fourth time the board has been similarly in action this season.

## Jess Smith Plans Chi, Det. Stands for N.Y. Fop

Slight, starry-eyed Coast comedy briefly shown on Broadway at the Cort early this season, has been acquired by Jess Smith, Hollywood agent, who tried his luck in N. Y. last winter with "The Barber Bad Two Sons," another California "find" that also landed a short time at the Playhouse, N. Y.

"Married" was known on the Coast as "Mother's Day." Sam Blaylock was named as producer there but when the play reached N. Y. Melville Burke was billed as producer. The center, Smith plans spotting the play in Chicago and Detroit.

## Four Best Salesman

## In New Markets -

## Present and Future



To Be Published Late In December

NEW YORK 19. 154 W. 46th St. HOLLYWOOD 28. 1708 N. Vine St. CHICAGO 1. 54 W. Randolph St. LONDON 8 St. Martin's Pl.



## Flu Hits Show Biz

off music at Universal.







## Broadway

Jim Sauter bedded with the flu. A. A. Knudinger bedded with flu at his Jersey home.

"Al Butler is ahead of second road show of "Blossom Time."

Jerry Kaufman, much under the weather, planned to finish Friday 1943.

In Murray, head of William Morris agency's radio dept., another nip victim.

Joe Cook, who was married to Coast girl at Hicksville, L. I., last Wednesday (9).

John Houseman huddling with Max Baer for script for "The Fighting 69th." Arthur Kelly, United Artists vice-president, due back from Hollywood from the Coast.

John Dalympy, "Doctors Who Kill" columnist, may be permitted to leave late this week.

Joe McKenna of the N. Y. Daily News first among sports writers to be called in draft.

Small pinch which Erin O'Brien-Snow carries on the stage is named after her Jean Harlow.

Ann Sheridan left Saturday (11) for the Coast to start work in "Hollywood Canten" for Warners.

Francis Farrel, Paramount studio director, departing briefly in England, left for the Coast Thursday (9) for a short stay.

Jerry Wald, Hal B. Wallis and N. Warner are now back on the Coast after getting over the flu.

Jeanne Gage leaving for the Coast to work on the production of "Holidays with Brothers and James."

Jack Wilek, eastern production manager for Warners, back from Hong Kong (cancer), due back to New York this week.

Brood, production manager for James Cagney, due in N. Y. from the Coast tomorrow (Thursday) for a day's visit.

Eleanor Wells leaves this week for Hollywood, where she will produce "Sandra's drama." She's the wife of Billie Wells, author.

Jack Robbins, director at Doctor's hospital, is obliged all the time to the infection specialist who treated him from Frank Sinatra.

Joe C. Conroy, a hunter for one night, Xmas, in order to permit the employees to celebrate the holidays at home with their families.

Dick Wesson (Wesson Bros.) out of the office, joined the Coast after a week's illness. Recently returned from a USO overseas jaunt.

William L. Sullivan, head of the production of "Carmen Jones," John Chapin, N. Y. News columnist, returned on Billy Rose the title of the "little."

Lillian Jenkins, assistant production director of Madison Square Garden, left for Detroit to see the Sonia Henie ice show before it comes into N. Y. next week.

Margaret Sullivan presented Sam Schwartz with silver elegant desk set. He is co-author of "The Voice of the Turtle," in which she and Elliott are the costars.

General Motors, sponsor of the "Symphony Orchestra," lunchened with the orchestra, who later were conducting for the next 12 days in the Ambassador.

William Molloy, slated to become assistant branch manager for 20th-Fox in Panama, has received his first check after weeks of waiting, planned for there yesterday (Tuesday).

Virginia Faith Davis, daughter of producer Meyer Davis, signed by the Pittsburgh Opera Society and will make her operatic debut this week, singing the female title in Humperdinck's "Hansel and Gretel."

The Jack L. Warner are sticking around New York for another two weeks, seeing the shows, vacationing. They just got back from the last weeks at Hot Springs, Ark., where they took good sunny days.

Sidney Gross, assistant film and drama critic for the Bronx News, has been taken over by the assistant director at the Rivoli, succeeding Paul Richter, who was on the job two weeks ago to join United Artists in publicity.

Charles of Eugene Newman, for 14 years in the field auditing division of the National Theatre department, left on Friday (10), chartered by the Coast.

David Newman left that day for Fox (20). N. Y. Daily News duty after being in the Signal Corps for nearly five years.

Leonard H. Goldenson, v.p. of Par Dembow, Jr., v.p. of Par Theatre Service Corp., and Bob Weisman, assistant director of the Broadway plus Harry Levine of the Par stage book department, are back from the Coast.

## Pittsburgh

By Hal Cohen

Nelson Mapall has returned to the Cork and Bottle for an indefinite turn.

Roscoe Als headline new production with Johnny Gals, local singer.

Dancer Virginia Ray back to the Virginia Theatre for three time in six months.

Charles Carter (Baron Elliott, the band leader) now has an APO address.

Karl Kru, critic, celebrates silver anniversary as a local newspaperman on Dec. 31.

Maurice Turlet in town beating the drums for new Maxwell Anderson play, "Storm Overpass."

Bertie Clon who quite acting to open haberdashery shop here, now looking in the plant.

Cantile the magician booked here for Christmas and holiday weeks as result of his recent call.

Oscar Levant's nephew, Mark Levine, of Dr. Ben Levine was a super in "Student Prince" last week at the Capitol.

Playhouse will have to look for a new Pat. Joan Levell leaving to accompany a soldier-husband to Washington.

Helen Cline, former case singer, picking up career again with Frank of her musician-husband, Department for overseas.

## Miami

Moe opened at the Olympia.

Dactis opened at Monte Carlo.

Tubby Hayes and Patcy Shaw added at Kitty Davis.

Jeanne Jenkins is new warbler at the Olympia.

Cliff Winchell and Ben Perry added to the Olympia.

Tobacco Road "Club" spotlighting the new show.

Frolic Club has Carmen Cavallaro band, with Alan Dale as vocalist.

Nixon and his soldiers have been releasing from an appendectomy at the hospital.

Hal McIntyre, orch., featuring Gloria Van and Al Nobel, are at the Olympia.

Grace Moore in town for a few days, singing the soldier's song.

Fortcoming New Moon production, making Gloria Van and Al Nobel, are at the Olympia.

Rajah Rabold, Gage Sultan and the Drumette Lovelies, a line of the Olympia.

Prof. Backwards (Lillie) opened at the Olympia.

Trill has been signed for the new George White's "Scandals."

Can't find the soldier's song in the 70s, much sunshine and immense crowds are making Gloria Van and Al Nobel, are at the Olympia.

Hal McIntyre, orch., featuring Gloria Van and Al Nobel, are at the Olympia.

## Philadelphia

Alan Gable, who has a daughter, Rebecca, 3, are singing.

Ben Gable, WIP, singer, slated for the Philadelphia at the Temple house.

George Hooper, WIP engineer, named transmitter supervisor at the Philadelphia.

Jack Steck, WFIL, p. hit, by gripe and had his car stolen within a week.

A new nitery, the Copacabana, is opening on Tuesday (12) with press party.

Chris McDonald, recently discharged from the Army, is a radio announcer at WFEN.

Joe McGrath, v.p. of the AGVA office is June Carroll, once secretary to Bob Daniels and Collins.

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## London

Novelist E. M. Delaford seriously ill.

Diana Chase (Lilling and) anticipating.

Diana Chase (Lilling and) anticipating.

Billy Gillet returned to take a week's rest from doctors and now in hospital.

Harry Bradbury-Pratt out of the University College hospital after six weeks' confinement.

Joe Young returned again after six weeks' confinement in hospital, with internal trouble.

Bernard Delford, book of Wimborne, has been in hospital since from Tom Arnold.

John Arnold, out of hospital where he was confined for several weeks with internal trouble.

The Tom Arnold's apartment, in Park Lane burgled with not much taken as intruders were scared off.

Met McKieque discharged from King's College hospital after operation in which he had one of his toes amputated.

For three years in succession, Charles L. Tucker, interplay has exclusive, contract.

Police, finding.

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auditorium in a p. under the sponsorship of the Civic Music League.

Harry C. Arthur, Jr., David G. Arthur, and Ed Kaufman, Fourth War Bonds drive in this vicinity.

## Mexico City

Bing Crosby's discs are best sellers.

Tin-Tan (German Valses), newest local picture in connection, on radio at station XEIV.

Russell Birdwell, ex-Ing Car's publicity man, back from a business trip to the U. S.

Anna Maria Gonzales, radio singer, since she left the Blue Bird, has sung for six months.

Alfredo Perez, singer, booked for a tour of the Blue Bird, has sung for six months.

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## Hollywood

Mickey Rooney nursing a sprained ankle.

Ernest Rutledge, held to divorce suit.

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## Washington

Mild flu epidemic hit the Capitol and Earle, who has been back stage since 20 stricken.

Earle, who has been back stage since 20 stricken.

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*Another year*  
**ANOTHER**  
**FIRST**  
*for*  
**WOODY HERMAN**  
*and his Orchestra*  
 Featuring FRANCES WAYNE • CHUBBY JACKSON  
 CLIFF LEEMAN • THE WOODCHOPPERS



**1942**

Woody Herman and his Orchestra became the first band in the history of the Paramount Theatre to play for seven consecutive weeks.

**1943**

The Woody Herman Orchestra sets a precedent in being the first attraction in Paramount history to be held over through entire show and picture change.

*Our sincerest thanks to Bob Weitman and Harry Levine for having made this possible and to Harry Ramm for a million and one other things.*

**1944**

The New Year finds Woody and the boys returning to Hollywood for another feature picture, this time for United Artists — watch for their new Decca releases.

*General* AMUSEMENT CORPORATION  
 THOMAS C. ROCKWELL, President  
 NEW YORK CHICAGO HOLLYWOOD CINCINNATI LONDON



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VOL. 153 No. 2

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1943

PRICE 25 CENTS

# MOVIES NEW COMICS

## Fuzz Raised on Net Biggies When Erring Comics Lapse Into Profanity

Hollywood, Dec. 21. Notice has been served on comics by network censors that unless they stick to their scripts and quit "wandering," drastic action will be invoked to curb the dangerous practice. Fuzz was raised on chain biggies when they learned of two flagrant cases of outright profanity which went out over two networks. So outrageous were the infractions that the network bosses wouldn't believe what they were told had happened—that is, until the playback. It was not a case of being smart-alecky by either offender, nor was it ad libbing a blue line, but rather a lapse into profane catch-phrases usually bandied about in back rooms where stars gather for their elbow-bending exercises. One of the wayward buffoons, who rarely goes off the reservation either on or off the show, was so broken up by what he had mumbled that he went into hiding for days after and really took it hard. The other, the more flagrant of the two, was uttered by a not-so-important name but on one of the better Coast shows. Again a case of yielding to temptation and being (Continued on page 55)

## Air-Minded Detroiters Fingerprint at Films' Aeronautical Fluffs

Detroit, Dec. 21. Hollywood's film-cutters, better take a course in plane spotting. The local managers are rocking their heads following the Saturday matinees and are taking their pens in hand in rocks to write to the studios asking if they don't know the generation of plane experts has grown up.

A typical case was following "Corridor," where after the first Saturday matinee the manager's office in one name was stormed by a dozen or more kids. They wanted to know (Continued on page 48)

## Appropriate Theme

Hildegarde thought fast at the Hotel Plaza's Persian Room. N.Y. recently when a femme singer's veil caught fire from her own careless cigarette. The songstress saw it, helped extinguish it, and then dedicated a song, "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes to the (naturally) some what flustered patron.

## Tempus Fugit Dept.

Broadway, after the war, will be a treacherous street. Broadway Association plans to do away with the car lines and put a bus stop post-bellum to facilitate traffic along the main stem.

Tracks will be ripped up from 42d to 125th St.

## B'way Fakers Have Much To Learn From Fakirs, Says B'way P.A. Now Gl

By CPL. PAUL BENSON

Somewhere in India. Broadway fakirs have a lot to learn. The boys back home could well take lessons in the art of hustling from the fakirs here. The native storekeepers in Bombay and are going to be Rajahs before the war ends. When they see Sucker Americans approaching, up go the prices to three and four times the previous asking price. I'm not kidding, everything is sky high. For instance, a 10c tube of toothpaste brings four rupees. A rupee is the equivalent of 22c. A can of fruit, which cost 30c in the States, brings eight rupees, if you are lucky enough to find a store stocked with the goods. On boy, for those A&P and James Butler stores.

This country is film mad. In addition to being terrific fans for the American films, India has a swell film industry all its own. They have large modern studios in Bombay and the camera, sound and technical work is almost on a par with Hollywood's best product. Most of the films are musicals. Favorite stars have fan clubs, like Joan Crawford or Lana Turner in the States. The weekly or monthly fan papers distributed by gook-eyed Indian fans. In the larger cities, autograph hounds follow their American co-stars and haunt the homes, night clubs and eating places where the stars congregate. In Indian films the director gets as large billing as the star, and much more than the author. Each film company employs a number of tune-smiths who do nothing but turn out songs for their company's products.

Here are some of the leading stars of the Indian films: Mumtaz Shanti, Ullhas, Saikh Mukhtar, Yakur, Anis Khan, Nagma, Khurshid, Sajal, Wasti and Protima Das Gupta. Most of the film stars use their last name, a la Garbo. Incidentally she's a tremendous favorite here.

Some of the ace directors are: Dadasaheb, Sadig, Sunnys and Chandra. The American film favorites are: George C. Singer, Rogers, Cary Grant, Clark Gable and Lana Turner. Alan Ladd's career here is zooming up as they like American musicals and (Continued on page 25)

## FILES LAUGH GAP IN ANNOUNCERS

Quiz Shows Most Prolific Springfield for Gabbers—Turned—Funsters—Edwards, John Reed King, Hawk Now Among Ace Comedy Personalities

## 'THE EASY WAY'

The radio industry in recent months has been taking cognizance of the development of an entire new school of comedians from the ranks of former air announcers. With the radio comedy talent situation growing more and more acute, and speculation perhaps more rife now than ever before as to where the future funny men of the airwaves will come from, it's regarded in more than one circle as highly probable that the solution to the problem has to a large measure already been found in the emergence of the ex-gabbers as among the current crop of audience-drawing magnets.

Chiefly responsible for the unusual transformation have been the quiz shows, out of which have graduated into the comedy field such personalities as John Reed King, who presides over the "Double or Nothing" show; Bob Hawk, who conducts the "Thanks to the Yanks" program; Ralph Edwards, whose "Truth or Consequences" program is generally recognized as producing one of the top radio showmen of the past few (Continued on page 55)

## 12-Year-Old Character Out of 'Father' in D.C. As Bow to Child Labor Law

Washington, Dec. 21.

"Life With Father" has been rewritten by Russell Crouse and Howard Lindsay to conform to the District of Columbia child labor law. The 12-year-old character, indelible here has been erased from the script. The domestic comedy will be presented at the National Theatre for two weeks beginning Feb. 13, with a company headed by Joan Walker and Harry Banner. Crouse and Lindsay investigated the prospects of having the D.C. child labor law revised. They decided that the comedy would be barred from Potomac shores if the change depended on amending the statute to permit actors under 14 years. Congressman Jennings Randolph, chairman of the D.C. committee and a good friend of the legitimate theatre, told them that amendment this session seemed out of the que. So they then their decision, to change the script

## Show Biz Heartens Boys in Camps, Wounded, in Greatest Xmas Pitch

## Gl's Gimmick

Washington, Dec. 21.

Pvt. Ernest Henderson, at Fort Devens, Mass., collected a heavy bet that the war day when he was aged he could swallow a bayonet... and did it with ease.

It wasn't till later that he broke down and told the suckers he had toured the U. S., Europe and South America at Dan Axaro, professional sword swallower.

## N.Y. Literary Agents

## More 'n' More in Driver Seat As Regards Pix

New York literary agents have become the spoiled darlings of picture company script-hunters during the past season, owing to the sharper bidding and great dearth of suitable studio material. In contrast to the somewhat brusque treatment accorded most literary agents on the Coast, their eastern confreres are courted and fêted by film company reps.

One of the chief reasons for the greater relative importance of the literary agent in the east is that picture companies are by no means the most important outlets for agents in New York, while picture companies are the main story buyers in Hollywood.

Eastern agents, getting from \$20,000 to \$50,000 for a four-part magazine serialization (\$10,000 and up for new writers), and \$5,000-\$7,500 for mag short stories by new writers, are more sought after than seeking. Even important magazine editors must make it their business to cultivate the agents rather than vice versa.

Eastern agents with a stable of only four writers is reported netting (Continued on page 49)

Show business this week is putting the final touches to one of the most ambitious Christmas—good-will pitches in the history of the entertainment industry. From Hollywood and Broadway and from the radio, studios the stars and lesser knowns will reach out to the boys in the camps, to the wounded in the hospitals brought back from the war fronts. And around the globe the performers from the American and British stage and films will join hands to see that the boys thousands of miles from home get their full share of the Yuletide spirit. As a further guarantee that not a single man in uniform is slighted, transcribed shows—with the cream of stage, screen and radio representation—have been shipped by the War Dept. around the world.

Keynote the vast series of Xmas package greetings will be the greatest exodus of stars in film history the day after Christmas—when 150 film personalities leave Hollywood laden with holiday cheer for the G.I. boys in camps and hospitals in virtually every state. From Seattle to Florida and from El Paso to Pittsburgh they'll spread out for a full week to cover 80 routes in all but a few northeastern states, which will (Continued on page 16)

## Daily's Error on Paper

'Kills' Ads for 10 Days Chicago, Dec. 21.

Due to miscommunications on newsprint use in the last quarter, the Chicago Daily News is dropping all advertising, except amusements and death notices, for 10 days commencing Thursday (23). During this period the News will issue a 16-page paper daily, except Sunday. After Jan. 3 general advertising will be resumed.

George Hartford, advertising manager, estimates paper will lose 200,000 lines during the 10-day period.

## The Hour Of Charm

All-Girl Orchestra and Choir

Conducted by

Phil Spitalny

VIOLA



# General Flu Still On Rampage In H'wood; Suspect Secret Weapon

Hollywood, Dec. 21.—General Flu continued its drive on the motion picture studios for the second week in mid-December, inflicting numerous pictures and driving producers to distraction whenever they figure the production process. Even in rugged War pictures the stout heroes, lured to all forms of privation, suddenly start sniffing and call off the battle to nurse sniffling of germs.

Medical scouts in this sector report that Gen. Flu is using a secret weapon, a newer and speedier germ that sneaks up on its victim and jabs him with a hit-and-get-away-punch. It is not as powerful as the old-time germ but it covers more territory and stops quicker.

quicker production but costly. Some of the studios have turned their lights and other electrical equipment into anti-flu guns but the casualties continue.

Paramount reports an 8% personnel disability as a result of the second week's attack and other studios are slowed up by the same ailment. Absenteeism through flu. Among the prominent victims, not included in the listings, are: John Garfield, John Buschman, Pat O'Brien, Al Hall, Sidney Buchman, Robert Ryan, Ray Brannan, Harry Belafonte, Edward Killy, Ronald Colman, Mickey Rooney, Arthur Freed, Leon Shamroy, Samuel S. Hays, George Tobias, Jeffrey Bernard, James Ellison, Van Johnson, Howard Hughes and Jack George. A number of bit players, extras and technicians.

In the publicity departments the boys are so busy tending to the stories that the germs can catch up with them.

## Jean Collins 11th-Hr.

### Find For Show After

#### Grace Morgan's Death

Grace Morgan's fatal plunge from the 18th floor terrace of the apartment house where she lived at 200 W. 86th street, New York, early this morning (17) was the first action to replace the singer-planner on her five-minute (9:58-10 p.m.) spot on WJZ for Popo Biscardi.

Kent-Johnson, producers of the show, obtained Jean Collins just before air time. She clicked to well on the gimmick portion that even after auditioning seven other songsters on Monday and Tuesday, Kent awarded her permanent spot. Program is heard five times a week Monday through Friday, and is syndicated by Lawrence C. Gumbiner.

According to police investigation, Miss Morgan told her husband, Harry Fox, New York manager of the Calvert Distilling Corp., that she felt ill. She left the living room and a short time later her body was found. She was 22.

## Sad Tale of a Comic

### Who Binged and Bounced

Hollywood, Dec. 21.—Nitty gritty is kicking around a story about a comic that is evoking no end of laughs. On the twilight show that once was a comedy show in pictures, and night spots, zany really put it on with a bevy of comedians in a gay spot. One of the tab with a stiff reader for \$50. Cate operator caught the bad picture on the first bounce and put it to the comedian to either make it good or work it out. He chose the latter course and showed up next night for his stint. When he failed to put in appearance the following day, the cute boss ordered him to his hotel and was told he was in heck for his lodgings to the tune of \$25. He was paid and the comedian was trotted. Just before his turn he joined some friends at a table and succumbed to his old weakness—bottle cheer.

Now he's back in heck all over again.

## Roddy for 'Kingdom'

Hollywood, Dec. 21.—Roddy McDowall, the top moppet role in 'Keys of the Kingdom,' spiritual picture to be filmed by Fox-Pho, starting early in January.

Youngster's assignment caused a postponement of 'Son of Flicka,' in which he is slated to begin sometime in March.

## Vagabond, Old Bean

Strictly 'Hollywood, Dec. 21.—Johnny Come Lately' will be translated into 'Johnny Vagabond' for the British release.

James Cagney and his brother, William, in their first independent production concluded that a picture in a British might be puzzled by the hobo vernacular in the States.

## Sheridan, Hope Kudos

### By H'wood Press Gals;

#### Flynn, Fontaine Sing

Hollywood, Dec. 21.—Ann Sheridan and Hope Lange will be decorated this year with the Order of the Golden Apple, an honorary degree awarded by the Hollywood Women's Press Club as a reward for their easy-to-interview attitude, technically sound conversations, the applies, little gilded replicas, will be deposited, figuratively, in the winners' reward flynn, stockings at the Press Club's annual Christmas party tomorrow (22).

Lucille Ball ran second and Carole Landis third in the feminine section of the Apple Derby, only one woman. In the male category, Humphrey Bogart and George Murphy registered place and show behind him, the virtuoso of the business who still finds time to be nice to the newspaper gals.

For the victors of the journalistic orchard are the Crab Apples, so designated because of their sour attitude towards members of the press. Joan Fontaine won by a couple of bushels over Ginger Rogers and Jean Garçon. In the masculine division Errol Flynn and Charles Boyer put on a photo-finish with Flynn winning by one vote, showing that heart-throbbers on the screen are not always like that in their leisure time. Bing Crosby's first film, his racing form, four lengths back in third place.

Hope is the first recipient in the Apple Derby, inaugurated in 1941, when he won the glided prize with Bette Davis as his running mate.

## 20TH RENEWS SPIVAK;

### 2D FILM IN SPRING

Charles Spivak's orchestra has been renewed by 20th-Fox and the still return to Hollywood by April or May to go into a second film production. Renewal is for two more films in 1944. Spivak's first film, with Betty Grable, titled 'Pump Girl,' will be released early next year.

Before accepting 20th's renewal Spivak had to check with the studio that he wouldn't be ordered west within the next eight weeks. Band opened at the Pennsylvania hotel, Broadway and 42nd street in 1943, the last of length.

## Drake's Split

Alfred Drake, juve lead of 'Oklahoma,' who checks into Columbia for his first film in June, has a new The Guild contract for six months which permits him six months on Broadway and six months in the Guild deal calls for directing and staging.

John Roberts, like Drake, leaves the cast in June for a Metro chore and Joan McCracken has a Warner Bros. contract.

## 'A Curly to the Theatre

### And the Joys It Afforded'

By FRANK SULLIVAN

A feature of

VARIETY'S

Post-War Show Business

Edition

(38th Anniversary Number)

## KEN MURRAY'S

### 'BLACKOUTS OF 1943'

El Capitan Theatre, Hollywood, Cal.

"See all the shows in N.Y. This tops 'em all!"

79th WEEK!

JACK OKAIE.

Lux Dickers for RKO

Deal With Sinatra; Reem

Scoop Vimm's Preem

Deluxe-Lux Radio Theatre is negotiating for a radio version of the RKO picture, 'Higher and Higher,' if Frank Sinatra and other principals in the film can be lined up for January 3 broadcast. If the deal goes through it will be one of the few Lux productions to be broadcast prior to general release of a pic. The Deluxie program, with but few exceptions, goes in for current and classic film hits.

Lever Bros. sponsors of the Lux Radio Theatre, are anxious to get the airer set for the Jan. 3 date, since it would give them the jump on the regular Sinatra air show for Vimm's attitudes, which bows in two nights later (5) on the 9-30 slot over CBS.

Play looks in losing Sinatra, a well-placed, to which the press is being invited; on Dec. 27 at the Stork Club in N.Y., with the guests leaving that night for the Coast.

## LUNT-FONTANNE BOW

### IN LONDON 'NIGHT' NOW

London, Dec. 21.—"There Shall Be No Night," which teed off Dec. 12 at the Aldwych, proved a sensational triumph for Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne. Who played the roles they created in New York several seasons ago.

Play looks the biggest success here in years.

## Lastoford Finds H'wood

### For Fine Morale Job

Hollywood, Dec. 21.—Film players have done better than anyone expected in their voluntary entertainment support of the armed forces, in the opinion of Abe Lastoford, pressy of USO-Camp Shows, Inc., who congratulated the Hollywood Victory Committee on its work, prior to his return to New York after three months in the Coast. Addressing the HVC talent board Lastoford said:

"I have stuck to a job that has never been easy and often has been monotonous, but the results have been worthwhile. I am proud of all of us to see the all-out effort that the actors and actresses are making."

Abe Lastoford, USO-Camp Shows pressy, returns to N. Y. this week from the Coast, where he spent several months on his tour, representing 65% of the film stars for overseas tours during 1944.

The struggling overseas USO activity will get under way shortly after the first of the year, when the film stars will be asked to cover all the global fighting fronts.

Major emphasis, from here on will be placed on the offshore entertainment program, with many of those currently serving the boys in the army and navy bands in the front lines.

They are being transferred to the overseas circuit.

## AHERNES' CONN. HOME

Springfield, Mass., Dec. 21.

Brian Aherne and his wife, Joan Fontaine, have rented a new home nearby Suffield, Conn., following a visit there with the Philip Selwyns.

The pair commute weekly to New York for their radio show.

# New York Runaround

By Radie Harris

Jack Kapp of Decca is getting out a series of dramatic albums in which stars of the stage and screen will be heard in a series of dramatic albums. The first, 'The Love of the King,' featuring Jeanette MacDonald and Maurice Chevalier, is being released in the fall. The second, 'The Love of the King,' featuring Jeanette MacDonald and Maurice Chevalier, is being released in the fall. The third, 'The Love of the King,' featuring Jeanette MacDonald and Maurice Chevalier, is being released in the fall. The fourth, 'The Love of the King,' featuring Jeanette MacDonald and Maurice Chevalier, is being released in the fall. The fifth, 'The Love of the King,' featuring Jeanette MacDonald and Maurice Chevalier, is being released in the fall. The sixth, 'The Love of the King,' featuring Jeanette MacDonald and Maurice Chevalier, is being released in the fall. The seventh, 'The Love of the King,' featuring Jeanette MacDonald and Maurice Chevalier, is being released in the fall. The eighth, 'The Love of the King,' featuring Jeanette MacDonald and Maurice Chevalier, is being released in the fall. The ninth, 'The Love of the King,' featuring Jeanette MacDonald and Maurice Chevalier, is being released in the fall. The tenth, 'The Love of the King,' featuring Jeanette MacDonald and Maurice Chevalier, is being released in the fall.

Decca Records' pressy, Jack Kapp, rates a bend with the 'Oklahoma' cast for the pre-Xmas advance-royalty-payouts made-to-date on that \$5 album of all the Richard Rodgers-Oscar Hammerstein, 2d score. Decca took the attitude that the cash might come in handy pre-Xmas. In addition to the advance royalties, which each of the principals already received—Bob Roberts, Alvin Karpis, Celeste Holm, Howard da Silva and Lee Dixon and maestro Jay Blackton—they were paid on a sales expectancy of 150,000 albums.

Considering that each of the albums contains 12 sides—six pictures—some of the principals get as much as a \$6 royalty. It is estimated that each of the royalty in all gets to all participants in the album, from songsters to maestro and cast. Kapp figures the album will exceed 200,000 in sales. It has gone over 125,000 to date, and can't be pressed fast enough. It's all-time record for a \$5 album seller.

## Morris Agcy. Decisions

### A.&C. in Radio Rep Dispute

Hollywood, Dec. 21.—William Morris won the decision over Abbott and Costello in a radio representation dispute when he decided last week by an American Arbitration Ass'n panel. Comics had argued at continuing the deal with the agency and sought to switch over to Eddie Sherman. Under the ruling figures the album will exceed 200,000 in sales. It has gone over 125,000 to date, and can't be pressed fast enough. It's all-time record for a \$5 album seller.

Sherman represents the team for over a year over when three years past with Morris terminated. When they tried to make a similar deal with the radio deal, Morris fought the move under A.P.R.A.'s Rule 12 and the dispute went to arbitration.

But what saddens us most is the speaker who, addressing boys from all the world, has been so successful in confounding cleverness with smut, the one whose wit is not content to merely induce the bedroom, but seems only rightly at home in the bathroom.

Time is not necessarily the essence. No speech is too long if it seems too short. No speech is short enough if it seems too long. The context should be taken into consideration. The speaker should be of words to clothe a thought. When there is no thought, it needs no words.

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## Gary Cooper USO Unit

### In Sydney After Show

#### At New Guinea Front

Sydney, Dec. 21.

Gary Cooper, Una Merkel, Phyllis Brooks and Andy Acker were seen here after their arrival here after their trek through New Guinea. Party was entertained by film stars here in London.

Cooper party went up as close to the New Guinea front as the Army would permit today, to make another entertainment tour through the jungle fighting zone next year.

Cooper party went up as close to the New Guinea front as the Army would permit today, to make another USO tour with John Wayne.

## Breen's Latin-American

### Tour to Case Good Will

Hollywood, Dec. 21.

Joseph L. Breen, chairman of the Will Hays office, hopped off on a three-week tour of Mexico and Central America as chairman of the Motion Picture Society of the Americas under a series of the American Ambassador to the Americas.

Purpose of the trip is to check up on the situation in the Americas and to make a tour of the Americas.

Purpose of the trip is to check up on the situation in the Americas and to make a tour of the Americas.

# Kate Smith Blasts Disc Jockeys For Unpatriotic Singer Contests

Radio singing stars who have been making an outstanding pitch to get across OWI messages are doing a turn over the manner in which local radio stations, in their early morning disc sessions, are nullifying their efforts.

Particularly incensed over the situation is Kate Smith, who has long been championing the OWI, home front efforts toward the elimination of unnecessary telephone calls, use of the mails for other than essential purposes, etc. Several stations in the N. Y. metropolitan area are cited as the principal offenders in destroying the effectiveness of the appeals, although it's pointed out that the abuses under fire are becoming more widespread as the pop vocal disc hours on local stations are increasing in popularity throughout the country.

The singers' squawks are aimed at the stations making a bid for listeners via their 'Battle of the Songbirds' contest sessions in which they pit, say, Kate Smith against Bing Crosby, or a novelty vocal program versus Jerry Colonna and many many more, and asking their listeners to register their vote by either telephone or mail. In the past, this kind of contest stars, this has the effect of leaving with the listener the impression that the singer is asking for the vote solicitation.

Kate Smith's stance. While nothing can be done about preventing the stations from using their records, they point out, Kate Smith, for one has served notice that she will not be used in this way. She has put a halt to the misleading and unpatriotic usage made of the recordings. In the past, she has campaigned with a blast at the contest during her noon broadcast on Friday (17).

At this point, let me make it clear that I am not complaining about the use of the records on the air. That is not against the law.

But, speaking for myself, I am concerned over this matter of asking for votes by mail, or by phone. It would be different. I'd be overjoyed to have my friends send in votes for me. But we are at war, and the Post authorities have their hands more than full getting the mail through to the Armed Forces, and the letters that come in camps in the United States, and it seems to me that adding to the present volume of mail, and letters to help decide a popularity contest is anything but a contribution to the war effort. The time taken to write these postcards could be more profitably spent writing to loved ones in service. Some of these radio contests do not want you to mail a card. Instead, they ask that you pick up your postcard and away and cast your vote that way. And that's another thing that I don't like. Time is so precious. I've urged you not to use the telephone unnecessarily. I have asked you to cooperate with the telephone company, already overburdened with the business of war, and overtaxed with calls that must go through. And now I find myself in the unfortunate position of being in the lead in a contest about which I want to be consulted, and in which I have no part.

Let me emphasize that I am not speaking for other singers now or just for myself. And I ask you, on my behalf only, please whether you wish to record or to please, do not vote for me in this Battle of the Songbirds contest. Please do not waste your time or the postman's time in this critical period of the war, by sending in postal cards with

## "ONE WORLD" IN HUMOR TOO"

Writes

JACK BENNY

Still Another Editorial Feature in the 38th Anniversary Edition of

VARIETY (Post-War Show Business Number)

## Anne Brown Sought As 'Carmen Jones' But Concert Dates Snag

Concepts dated already lined up for Anne Brown, creator of the co-lyle role in 'Jorge and Bess', are reported stalling negotiations for her to appear in the title role of 'Carmen Jones' in the Billy Rose Broadway musical. Rose has talked with Miss Brown, Rita Moren, her successor in the Gerahwin folk opera, and several others in seeking a singer to alter with Michael Smith as Carmen. Miss Brown was considered for the part when the up-to-date Bluet opera was in production but went on concert tour instead. At reported figure of \$1,250 an appearance she is doing about as well as in her power as a singer. Former 'Torgy and Bess' star also has been in the campaign to appear in WB's screen biopic of George Gerahwin, 'Rhapsody in Blue', and is reported set for a repeat on the Warner lot.

## CBS DICKERS MERMAN AS 'MATINEE' REGULAR

Ethel Merman, star of Michael Todd's 'Something for the Boys' musical at the Alvin, N. Y., who guested on the CBS 'Broadway Matinee' daily show on Thursday (16), is being lined up for a permanent weekly spot on the program. Show is heard from 4 to 4:25 p.m. and stars Altered Drake, male lead of 'Oklahoma'.

## Billy Rose, Ben Marden Buy Loew's Ziegfeld, N. Y.

Billy Rose and Ben Marden, nitery pop, have bought the Ziegfeld Theatre, N. Y., after angling for the property for months. Stated purchase price was \$1,000,000. The purchase price was the figure offered by Loew's which has been operating the spot with double the ticket price for ten years. Understood that the deal was made as the result of the court ordered sealed bids for the property being held in litigation because of interest by investors in former S. W. Straus bond entanglements. Possession of the house is not to be had until next September at which time Loew's lease expires. Rose operates the Diamond Horseshoe in addition to legit activities.

(Continued on page 16)

# REQUIREMENTS FOR SCREENING

If early findings are confirmed by further developments, eastern film production is likely to see a terrific hypo as result of television screen requirements, since a completely new library and source of pictures would have to be developed for the new medium.

Television executives who, during the past few weeks have been screening pictures made for regular theatre screens, but reduced to 16mm size and televised on a two-foot screen, have come to the conclusion that this type of film is not suitable for television and that a new technique will have to be developed. This is held that regular film product, what it was originally thought would provide a virtually unlimited backlog for television production, is now considered unlikely to be suitable.

In this event production of films for television is likely to be centered primarily in New York (1) because technical facilities are easily available, and (2) talent from radio, stage and niteries, more suited for the new small screen production technique is more abundant in the east than elsewhere.

It is reported the opinion of television executives that the new technique measuring two feet, with daylight exhibition, requires a technique comparable to that employed in the production of small screen coin machine films such as those made by Jack Barry (Metro Production) for the new technique.

Longshots, which are effective on the regular theatre screen, look like tame, emphasis on close-up, stage and a crowded foyers effect is the result wherever crowd scenes occur. The falling in of the camera produces a type of camera production. In case of the small screen used in coin machine games, the camera is stationary. The two-foot screen would not take what the large theatre screen and long-range viewing demanded. A small screen means face-to-face, split-second entertainment. Emphasis on close-up, stage and intricate camera techniques were necessary.

High-key lighting, strong makeup and decisive costume replaces soft lighting, small screen, and the television which goes counter to many long established production practices.

The new technique for small screen production applies to performers as well as technical methods. Intimate, direct delivery is preferred for the face-to-face television screen. The small screen loses subtlety so that simplicity and directness are required.

Restriction in screen size, along with daylight exhibition and other technical difficulties, require the elimination of certain types of story treatment. The elaborate plot requiring intricate plotting and plenty of time-space is not favored. The entertainer who can be natural and direct, like Joe Louis, personally in the story character comes over stronger on the small screen. Thus, in many ways, the television medium is likely to call for a simplified yet new style of delivery.

## No D.C. Tour For Her

Washington, Dec. 21. Ann Richards, new Metro picture, is in bed with the flu at the Statler. She is being kept in bed for some slighting but hasn't gotten over her hotel room to date, and will probably spend her entire visit recuperating.

## YOUR COPY OF 'VARIETY' MAY BE LATE

Because of the exigency of war-time transportation, 'Variety' may be late sometimes in reaching you, especially during the Xmas mail rush.

Delays occur after 'Variety' leaves our offices and are caused by conditions beyond our control.

# Will Rogers Memorial Group Folds. Big 5 Pic Cos. Take Over Hosp Care

BOB HOPE

writes about

## 'The High Spot in a Career'

Feature of the 38th Anniversary Edition of

VARIETY (Post-War Show Business Number) Soon Due

## 'Bernadette,' 'Comrade' Complete Sweepstakes For Academy's Oscars

Hollywood, Dec. 21. With last minute rush by two studios to get under the wire to qualify for Academy awards, the candidate list for the year's 'best picture' is taking form when 20th Fox tonight (20th) presents its entry, 'Bernadette,' and RKO puts its best picture forward with the first screening of 'Comrade.' Dec. 29. Eligibles for Oscars must be given L. A. first runs by Jan. 1.

'Madame Curie' looks like Metro's choice, with Columbia setting store by 'Sahara,' Warners 'Watch on Rhine' and the new Paramount mount with 'Whom Bell Tolls.' Warners hopeful of a special award for 'Army,' 'Comrade,' Dec. 29. 'Eligibles for Oscars must be given L. A. first runs by Jan. 1.

## JOE SCHOENFELD JOINS WILLIAM MORRIS AGCY.

Joe Schoenfeld, associate editor of 'Variety,' is leaving this paper Jan. 1 to join the William Morris agency. Scho has been with 'Variety' 11 years, covering all phases of the show business, coming to this paper after nine years with Hearst and other dailies in New York, Chicago and Newark. The Morris agency offer was confirmed several months ago but Scho chose to round out the year by completing the 38th Anniversary Number on the horizon.

Schoenfeld will be in the literary department of the Morris Agency, located in the Coast office after Feb. 1. Intervening four weeks will be spent in the N. Y. office.

## Overseas Performers In Wax Encore For Troops

Hollywood, Dec. 21. Film personalities who have entertained troops in the North Africa campaign are collaborating on a 'Command Performance' transcription to be sent overseas soon at the request of Gen. Dwight Eisenhower through the Hollywood Victory Committee.

The backed program are Jack Benny, Bob Hope, Frances Langford, Tony Romano, Anna Lee, Kay Francis, George Rayne, Carole Landis and Mitzi Mayfair.

Washington, Dec. 21. Will Rogers Memorial Commission has wound up its work with a final batch of scholarship requests, and operation of the Will Rogers Memorial Hospital at Saranac Lake, New York, and the Will Rogers' beds in other hospitals will revert to the 'big five' producer-exhibitor film companies' which had jurisdiction when it was all part of the NVA Sanatorium.

Announcement of the action was made here Monday evening (20th) by Secretary of Commerce Jesse H. Jones, treasurer of the Commission. Jones said that contributions to the fund from individuals amounted to \$247,000. Film studios raised an additional \$1,862,166 during the five years he made collections from their patrons and the hospital at Saranac Lake, turned over by stage and screen people to the Commission, was valued at another \$1,000,000, making a total of \$2,109,166 in cash contributions to memorialize Will Rogers.

## Jones' Statements

'The trustees of the Will Rogers Memorial Commission, with the approval of the board of directors, have determined to wind up the affairs of the Commission. The five studios circulating National Theatres Amusement Co., Inc. (20th-Fox); Warner Bros. Pictures, Inc.; Loew's Inc.; Paramount Pictures, Inc.; and RKO Service Corp., have agreed to continue and maintain the (Continued on page 46)

# Never Lived With Mate, Siamese Twin Charges In Seeking Pitt Divorce

Pittsburgh, Dec. 21. Daisy Hilton, 31, wife of Violet Hilton, the Siamese Twins, filed suit for divorce here last week charging that her husband, who is a dancer, of Elmira, N. Y. Mrs. Estep claimed she and Estep never actually lived together after their marriage in Buffalo on Feb. 17, 1941, insisting at the same time, however, that the merger was definitely not a publicistic stunt. She charged desertion.

The other Hilton sister, Violet, was divorced from her husband, James Moore, also a dancer, several years ago.

# VARIETY

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# THIS TO CHECK %-DIES

## RKO Establishing Retirement Pensions for All Employees

What is believed to be the first pension or retirement plan within the motion picture industry, applying generally to all employees, is being established by RKO Corp. Floyd B. Odium, chairman of the RKO board of directors, announced yesterday that the RKO board had determined to establish a pension or retirement plan for employees.

Odium stated that the general features of the plan were approved in principle by the board at the meeting held yesterday (Tuesday), and that details would be approved and announcement made before Dec. 31.

The plan will, of course, be submitted to the Treasury Dept. for approval and is subject to such approval.

Odium stated that the pension plan is designed to reward employees for their past and future services by providing pension benefits in addition to Federal Social Security benefits. The plan will include all present regular employees between 30 and 64 years of age if they have already completed three years of service or as soon as such service has been completed.

New employees will likewise be included. If between the ages of 30 and 64.

It is planned to provide retirement benefits under the plan for employees now over 64 years old.

Employees in the U. S. armed forces will be included with full credit for the time spent in the armed forces if they return to RKO. The primary purpose of the plan is to provide, after normal retirement age, a monthly pension the amount of which will be determined by the length of service and compensation.

Normal retirement age will be 65 years of age in the case of employees now over 35, whose normal retirement age will be covered by special provisions.

Minimum benefits after normal retirement age will be fixed amounts monthly including normal Federal social security benefits.

The plan will also include benefits in case of death prior to attainment of the normal retirement age.

There will be no contributions by employees to the cost of the plan.

Annual payments will be made by the employer corporations to a special trust fund which will be self-administered.

## SHOW BIZ DONATES 90C TO NCCJ; 150C GOAL

Industry leaders pledged another \$40,000 additional to the annual quota of the amusement division of the National Conference of Christians and Jews at the luncheon held last Thursday (18) at the Astor hotel. In addition, the fund was increased by the contribution of the American Theatre Wing, which gave \$50,000 out of its share of distribution receipts from "Stage Door Carters," J. Robert Rubin, chairman of the amusement division, announced at the meeting. Amusement division's quota is \$150,000 of the \$1,000,000 sought by the Conference.

Will Hays, head of the Motion Picture Producers & Distributors Association, lauded for his past church work, climaxed the series of talks at the Astor session with a vigorous plea to aid the organization. Major General George L. Van Deusen, commander at Ft. Monmouth, N. J., described in detail the effective Conference work among his troops. The activity of the organization in camps of U. S. armed forces throughout the country was stressed in talks by Dr. Theodore C. Spencer, Rabbi Isaac Goldstein and Father John Ford, with Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, Conference president, summarizing the organization's great work. He pointed out that the Conference is an educational instrument of the American people to strengthen civilizing influences in relations among Protestants, Catholics, and Jews.

Rubin presided at the meeting with film company toppers on the dais.

## DISTRIBS CLAIM MILLIONS LOST

Heads of major company distribution departments met last week at the Copyright Protection Bureau of the film industry in New York and reportedly discussed possibility of engaging a nationally known private detective agency to work with or without film checkers on houses playing pictures on percentage.

Understood that complaints were registered at the meeting that distributors lost an estimated \$2,000,000 or more in '43 on percentage deals through under-payment by exhibits in various parts of the country. In one section it was stated that of 157 theatres, only seven could be recognized as having fulfilled their commitments completely. Four or more areas where it is considered the greatest number of violations occur were mentioned by name.

Problem of getting full returns from percentage pictures is considered of more importance this year than for many seasons past, due to the large number of percentage deals. Distributors, from accounts, also pointed out that it was important to get more exact returns because future deals were being figured on the basis of current percentage returns.

If Pinkerton or Burns operatives are engaged, it was considered possible that checkers might be released altogether in many situations and exhibits placed on their honor, with the sleuths operating incognito as trouble-shooters.

Various estimates that all major companies combined spend some \$75,000 weekly on percentage picture houses around the U. S. One major employs some 1,000 checkers, representing a weekly payroll of \$10,000 or more, including expenses. Cost of checking for other companies is from \$3,000 weekly up.

Another meeting of sales heads to discuss the problem is scheduled for Dec. 28.

## Skouras, Lichtman, Rubin to Eng. On Fox-Metro Stake in Gaumont

Hollywood, Dec. 21.

At Lichtman's London trek for Fox-Metro, it was recalled that J. Robert Rubin, with pair probably showing off after the first of the year. They will confer with Alexander Korda, foreign manager for Metro, on studio's post-war production setup, which will run to 1945 pictures annually, with each carrying budget of \$1,000,000 or more.

On Gaumont Matter.

Visit of Spyros Skouras, A. Lichtman and J. Robert Rubin to London, while ostensibly on production and distribution matters in Great Britain, is reported primarily to be to iron out a deal for Metro and 20th-Fox with Metropolitan-New Bradford Trust, holding company for Gaumont-British.

It was recalled that J. Arthur Rank bought the latter-Oster holdings in Metropolitan for \$1,000,000, but is now obtaining 51% interest and the voting stock. The 49% held by 20th-Fox and Metro represents non-voting shares but it's admitted that Rank cannot do much until he obtains control. Hence, the some working agreement with the two American film companies.

Rank is understood to feel that he can give 20th and Metro as good representation as Oster did when he had 91% control in Metropolitan-Bradford. But 20th and Metro are reportedly not satisfied with the current arrangement. Hence, the desire to talk terms across the table with Rank.

Transfer of the 49% non-voting interest in Metropolitan has been up for decision more than a year but the parties feel the deal is about the two U. S. film companies have been this close to an actual settlement of the whole proposition.

Because of Rank's admittedly strong position in Britain's production industry, his distribution there are plenty of ramifications in the forthcoming London party. Both sides to the pending deal expect considerable leverage both on the production and exhibition end with the American interests already holding the ace card as far as product and distribution in Britain is concerned.

Marcella Napp's Pix Job. Hollywood, Dec. 21. Marcella Napp for past two years with William Morris in N. Y. joined Vanguard Films here to look after talent. She was one-time check at Metro.

You'll Enjoy  
**W. A. S. DOUGLAS'**  
Saga of Mickey Neilan  
(A Ripley of Movietown)  
In the  
38th Anniversary Edition  
of  
**VARIETY**  
Published Soon  
(Post-war Show Business Number)

## W.E.'s \$10,000,000 Classroom Films

Western Electric reportedly invested over \$10,000,000 in the Exp Classroom Films project, which was sold to the University of Chicago two weeks ago. ECP had a library of some 250 one-reel subjects.

W. E. found that there was an insufficient number of projectors in classrooms around the country to RKO's further experimentation with classroom subjects.

Rose's Coast O.O. David Rose, Paramount's managing director in Great Britain, who left N. Y. for the Coast Friday (17), will handle with Y. Frank Freeman, B. G. De Silva, and Henry Ginsberg on future production plans held in Hollywood. Rose is anxious to final casting on "Signed With Your Honor," which he hopes to begin production soon in London.

He previously announced that he wanted to round out the cast while in U. S. this trip.

# Your Best Salesman In All Markets - Present and Future

38th ANNIVERSARY  
**VARIETY**  
★  
POST-WAR  
SHOW BUSINESS  
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OUT SOON  
NEW YORK 19, 154 W. 46th St.  
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CHICAGO 1, 54 W. Randolph St.  
LONDON 8 St. Martin's Pl.

## LARRY KENT TO ACCOMP. S. SKOURAS OVERSEAS

Larry Kent, executive assistant to Spyros Skouras, is set to accompany the 20th-Fox proxy when he travels off on his overseas trek. Understood that Kent will make the trip primarily to visit Italy. Skouras is expected to open newly opened markets to check on the showing of company product in those recently taken over by the firm. Kent's mission likely will be to ascertain if 20th-Fox product is being given a fair competitive hearing in areas occupied by United Nations forces and check on manner in which prints are handled.

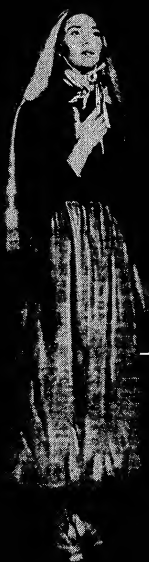
## Fox's S. A. Aides Due For N. Y. Confabs

Managing directors in Argentina and Brazil for 20th-Fox are to be in N. Y. before the end of the year. S. Horen, company's Argentine managing director, having arrived last week. J. C. Bayetta, Brazil manager, is expected to arrive before Jan. 1.

Both will confer with Murray Silverstone, foreign sales chief.

## Disney's Boogie Beat

Hollywood, Dec. 21. Walt Disney breaks out with a new South-of-the-Border dance from the Samba-Jongo in his next musical cartoon feature. "The Three Caballeros." Dance is based on a tune, "Baia," written by Ary Barroca, composer of "Brazil," and is described as a rocking chair rhythm with a beat down boogie beat.



# 20th Century Fox

## PREVIEW TRIBUTES

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greatest!"—Mr.  
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throughout!"—Mrs.  
H. Norman Spahr





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"Words fail me in describing it!"  
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"The picture far exceeds the novel!"—Mr. W. S. Fleming



"They ought to give it the Academy Award!"  
 —Miss Joan Dunke



# Toronto Police Probe Sabotage in Film Exchange Building Fire

Toronto, Dec. 21. Finding of a chisel rammed into a passenger elevator motor in the control room on the roof of the Film Exchange Building has resulted in reopening a fire case which cost the life of Herbert Maiman, Monogram projectionist, and seriously injured five firemen.

New investigation will be carried out by Inspector William H. Loughhead, Criminal Investigation Department, Ontario Provincial Police and Detective John Heuston, Ontario Fire Marshal's Department. "Just earlier had charged 'gross negligence' to Regal Films Ltd., Canadian Distributors for Metro, because of quantities of naked film left exposed in their vaults because of wartime lack of metal containers, but said that the cause of the fire was unknown.

Discovery of deliberate sabotage in the passenger elevator was not made until later, elevator machinery-makers concentrating on getting the freight elevators to work after the fire.

**Precautionary Steps**  
Spurred by the recent fire which gutted the Metro branch office in Toronto, killing an operator, distributors are taking steps to guard against the outbreak of another fire in the N. Y. exchanges where, to begin with, the safety regulations are particularly severe and strict.

At a meeting of N. Y. exchange managers and heads of shipping companies held during the week, it was proposed that a committee of two or three branch chiefs would check work inspect exchanges.

**Minor Damage**  
Findings of Dec. 21. Fire in the projection booth of the Lyceum here, on Dec. 17, destroyed the film, damaged the projector and forced cancellation of the night's show. Flashes fled out orderly.

**Fire Levels Chit Theatre**  
Chicago, Dec. 21. One of the city's most historic old theatres was leveled last week when fire completely gutted the building it was located in. Known in later years as the Wabash, a picture house, more than a generation ago many theatrical greats had played there. Originally opened as Baker's, then rebuilt as Haylin's theatre in 1893, named for John H. Haylin, junior member of the old Star & Haylin circuit, the house was one of the show places of town when the city's Gold Coast was on the near south side. Profits from the house enabled Haylin to delve into management. Following a period of darkness the theatre reopened in 1901 as the Columbus, presenting the Columbus Stock company, at 10, 20 and 30 admissions, with vaudeville between acts. It had been operated as a filmery for years.

## BERNADETTE IN N. Y. HOUSES, GLOBE AND RIV

"Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox), now playing in New York, went into two N. Y. houses when it opens, the Rivoli and Globe although this, in effect, the same scale will prevail in both spots although this has not been decided on definitely. Columbia plans to play "Bernadette" at upper scale at all initially released theatres. It plays two L. A. houses simultaneously.

Another 20th pic, "Lifeboat," opens at the Astor, N. Y., Jan. 6.

## Par Has All Key Eastern Chains Tied Up on Prod.

By completing deals with Crescent Amco and Schine circuit for the first two blocks of the season's production, Paramount has all key circuits in the eastern territory signalled for the first two months of 1944 pictures. It was revealed last week by Mel Agnew, Par sales chief. Deal with Crescent covers 14 theatres mostly in Tennessee.

## Bad Timing

Hollywood, Dec. 21. A sneak preview of Ginger Rogers' picture, "Tender Comrade," at the suburban, Inglewood recently while a storm raged outside when the star quipped "thunder is very unusual in California."

No sooner had she finished the line than a clap of thunder boomed and ensuing dialog was lost in the audience howling.

## Par Ends Year With 10 Pix Going

Hollywood, Dec. 21. Paramount swings into the last week of 1943 with a top mark of 10 pictures before the cameras and two musicals in the pre-releasing stage. Tunelins in the throes of sound, but not yet in front of the lenses are "Bring On the Girls" and "Fun Time." In work are "I Love a Soldier," "The Road to Utopia," "The Hitler Gang," "National Barn Dance," "Mystery Blood," "And Tomorrow," "Rainbow Island," "Till We Meet Again," "You Can't Run Away with Goodie's Choice."

## \$3,500 REWARD FOR ACKERMAN'S SLAYER

Detroit, Dec. 21. Rewards now totaling \$3,500—one of the highest ever posted in Michigan—have now been put up by the city of Detroit for the slayer of the slayer of Floyd E. Ackerman, manager of the Butterfield Circuit's two houses in the uptown area.

The theatre manager, who had been prominent in Bay City activities for years and who had won new playbills for his war bond selling activities in conjunction with the manager of a rival house, was shot and killed by a thug who robbed him of \$1,500 in theatre receipts on Dec. 19 in the uptown area.

"Because of the esteem in which he was held the city posted a high reward of \$1,000," says the State, through the Board of Supervisors, adding another \$2,500 for the capture of the cold-blooded slayer. The police had arrested four suspects but to date have held no one for the murder, which occurred in front of a downtown bank as Ackerman was preparing to drop the theatre receipts in the night box.

## Fu No Help to Seasonal Pre-Yuletide B.O. Dip

Usual rebound of the film theatre boxoffice is looked for in the trade picture, Dec. 25 despite the added load of severe weather and prevalence of influenza this week. "Weather," says Pre-Xmas slump this year is no exception, only that this year the number of flu cases, coupled with unusually early snow in front of the season, has accentuated a b.o. decline in some sectors. One example of earlier weather was the one-degree-below-zero recorded in the past week in Chicago. It was a case of weather usually doesn't arrive until February.

Fortunately, few exhibitors have experienced trouble in heating their theatres. While a few ventures have run into difficulty in getting coal as easy as they expected, pre-planning has enabled these spots to keep their theatres normally heated.

Several exhibs have complained regarding the coal situation, from all those who switched over from oil to coal heat. Government apportionment of the coal supply, because there is plenty of fuel oil whereas there have found strikes and severe coal spells have kept it difficult to maintain a steady supply of coal.

The coming year will see a sharp curtailment on releases and the virtual elimination of repeat bookings. It is predicted in trade circles. Opinion is that this change in policy among the distributors is likely to come not wholly because of a desire to move film faster, but as a measure against "rainy day" protection.

The question of remakes enters the picture in this respect. Contended that if repeat bookings, which have reached enormous proportions during the past year, are not drastically curtailed or abandoned, properties suitable for remake will be designated. Argument is propounded at the same time that if the market isn't denuded of remakes, the future field of remakes is further limited.

Some distributors have already begun to limit repeat bookings, causing complaint among exhibitors, but during the past year, as result of fears for the future display have also stopped destroying prints. Certain districts already cleared out old stock of two years, but stopped doing so because of the possibility that the Hollywood studios might be bombed during the year. The studios, on the other hand, have not been bombed since this year has since died out, MKRO, for one, immediately ceased junking prints which had been in a question, recently made as 10 pictures available as "re-repeats" with prints available to exhibitors. It was ordered where demand existed. Whether or not the non-junking of prints will continue to be a question, but meantime the problem of storing old prints is one that's being met by the studios.

**Shouldn't Be Permitted**  
Pointed out that while releases and repeat bookings by the studios in the coming year, the more distant future, in view of production, material and manpower difficulties (granting the war continues), may force this type of booking back on the market. The product outlook for 1944 would not indicate that the continuance of releases and repeats on any scale as at present is justified.

But among sales observers, it's pointed out, both repeats and releases should not be permitted. "Theory is that if repeat bookings are continued the way they're going now, the future field for releases, having been pictures is badly narrowed. In this connection, it's noted that where a picture is repeated, it's not having had more repeat dates previously, it's already does not do well. Meantime, the distich has gone to the expense of new prints, new accessories and selling these releases are marketed as new pictures, at the same time, even on high percentage, 'A' time has been obtained.

On repeats, many exhibitors have played the pictures immediately after they have closed out their so-called "rain run" in the zone in which operating. As an example, from random—a second-run neighborhood, operation plays a picture a week, available for the first, third, fourth and fifth runs in his area, and then brings it back in his regular. This policy seems to have been working out satisfactorily where practiced.

## FOREIGN MGERS. MEET ON U. S.-LATIN MARKET

Foreign sales managers huddled yesterday (Tuesday) afternoon at the days closed on routine matters, including bids of unfinished business from the session of several weeks ago.

Business and trade relations in Great Britain did not come up for discussion, new problems in the Latin-American market being highlights of confab.

## 'S' JUNGLE QUEEN'

Hollywood, Dec. 21. Acquainted with the title role in Universal's forthcoming "Jungle Queen," Jungle Queen.

# Kuykendall Warns 20% Tax Will Put Small Houses Out of Biz; Also Sees Exhib-Distrib Rental Scrap Ahead

## Cured, Pete?

Hollywood, Dec. 21. Republic drew a head on "The Dealership" and Pete Harrison's producer career in that neck of the woods dropped like a stick-in-the-buck. For years in his weekly sheet, Pete had been telling producers how to produce and finally decided to show them how.

His first production, based on the old J. Fenimore Cooper novel, is his last, at least for Republic release.

Warning that the 20% amusement tax will put a lot of little theatres now operating out of business within a year, Ed Kuykendall, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, declared in a bulletin to members that the tussle between exhibitors and distributors would be greater than ever.

Kuykendall pointed out that the exhibitors can now use only 80c of each dollar taken in for operating costs. The squeeze between the new tax and the cost of the house and constantly increased film prices "will make exhibitors groan next year," the MPTOA presy predicted.

Kuykendall referred to the 20% tax as excessive and destructive to a large but obscure and unnoticed part of our business—the country town and last-run theatres. After all, these small theatres do carry a substantial part of the production cost of every picture that comes out of Hollywood.

## RKO Stock List Hits Peak At 64

Hollywood, Dec. 21. Stock player roster for 1944 at MKRO is the longest in the history of the studio, numbering 31 males and 33 females, a total of 64.

List reached its peak with the addition last week of John Shaw, Elaine Anderson, Russell Hopton, Gail Robinson, Rozanne King, Greta Christensen, Marie Lund, Chris Drake and Bryant Washburn, veteran of the silent films.

## EARLE, D. C., ASST. MGR. 'UP ON DRAFT CHARGE'

Washington, Dec. 21. James B. Martie, 34, assistant manager of the Earle, was arraigned before U. S. Commissioner Needham C. Turnage, charged with being a draft evader. He was arrested at the theatre by FBI agents following his failure to report for induction at Reno, Nev., on Sept. 27, where he was registered.

Martie told reporters he thought he was not eligible for the draft because he had received a medical discharge from the Army in 1928. He said he registered under the name of Louis Andre De Forrest, with the knowledge of his draft board, because at the time he was four members of a gambling establishment, Bond was set at \$500 and he will be given a hearing on Dec. 22.

FBI said Martie had served six months in jail in Philadelphia on jewel robbery charges and that he had been serving 30 days for burglary in San Francisco in 1929.

The industry will survive the tax of 1c on each five. This will be felt by the biggest theatres as well as the small ones, but the effect will be only a much more severe on the smaller, weaker theatres. . . . Their patrons can't and won't pay any more for the show, and the theatre can't survive a 10% cut in gross receipts.

"They are the little's theatres, whose film rental contribution to the industry is insignificant at best and who may mean little to the economic structure of the business."

"Many of the smaller towns that have had a single theatre for years now have a movie a year from now. Imagine the distress in my own State of Missouri, where we also have a 10% state tax on theatre admissions to carry."

Kuykendall contends until a large part of the \$163,000,000 in new taxes on admissions next year will have to be taken out of the film rental paid to distributors. This will mean a "bitter fight," he said, "between the exhibitors, who now have to take out of each dollar taken in for operating costs, and the distributors, who make a living out of the constant decree hand-to-mouth selling system to force the present highest obtainable prices."

On percentage contracts, as Kuykendall points out, the decline in film rental is immediate and automatic, as the percentage is computed on the net receipts after the admission tax is deducted.

"The picture business," stated Kuykendall, "appears to be determined to sock the movies with at least a 30% increase in admissions. There is (Continued on page 16)

# Throw Away Your Joe Miller

There Are Enough Gags and Show Biz Anecdotes  
Compiled in One Regular Feature  
of Every  
VARIETY

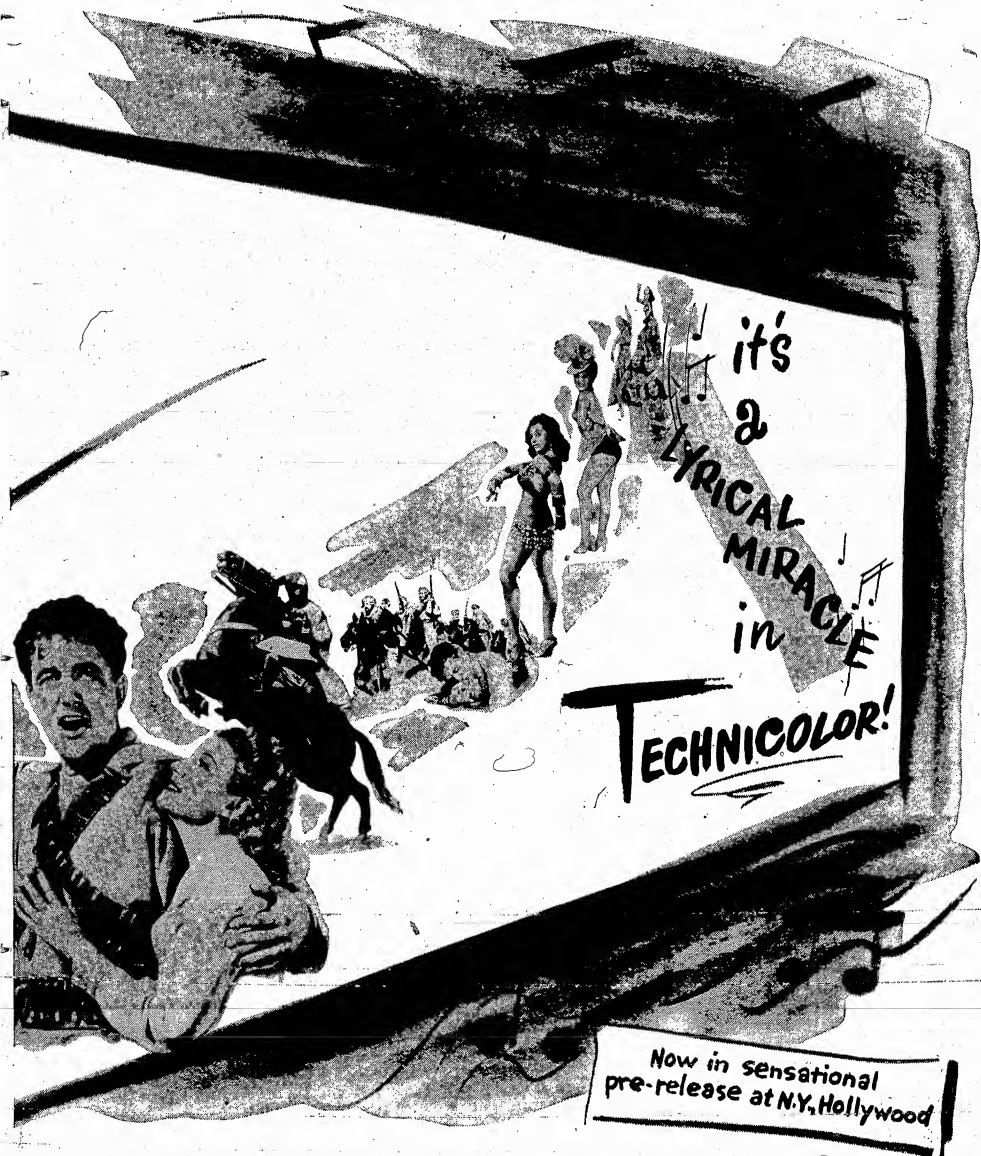
Anniversary Number—this Year the 38th

As Contributed by Such Tophnotch Personalities as			
Abbott and Costello	Edgar Bergen	John Hersholt	
Milton Berle	Ed Gardner	John Golden	
Harry Hersfield	Henny Youngman	Elsie Maxwell	
Buddy deSylva	Eddie Cantor	Carl Brisson	
Ed Moore	George Jessel	Joe E. Lewis	
Paula Lawrence	Kay Kyser	Howard Lindsay	
Fibber McGee & Molly	Willie Howard	Jorma Lindman	
Gonella Otti Skinner	Arthur Treacher	Romo Vincent	
Ed Wynn	Edward G. Robinson		

And Many, Many Others

# New York is SINGING WARNERS' DESERT SONG!!!





STARRING

DENNIS MORGAN • IRENE MANNING

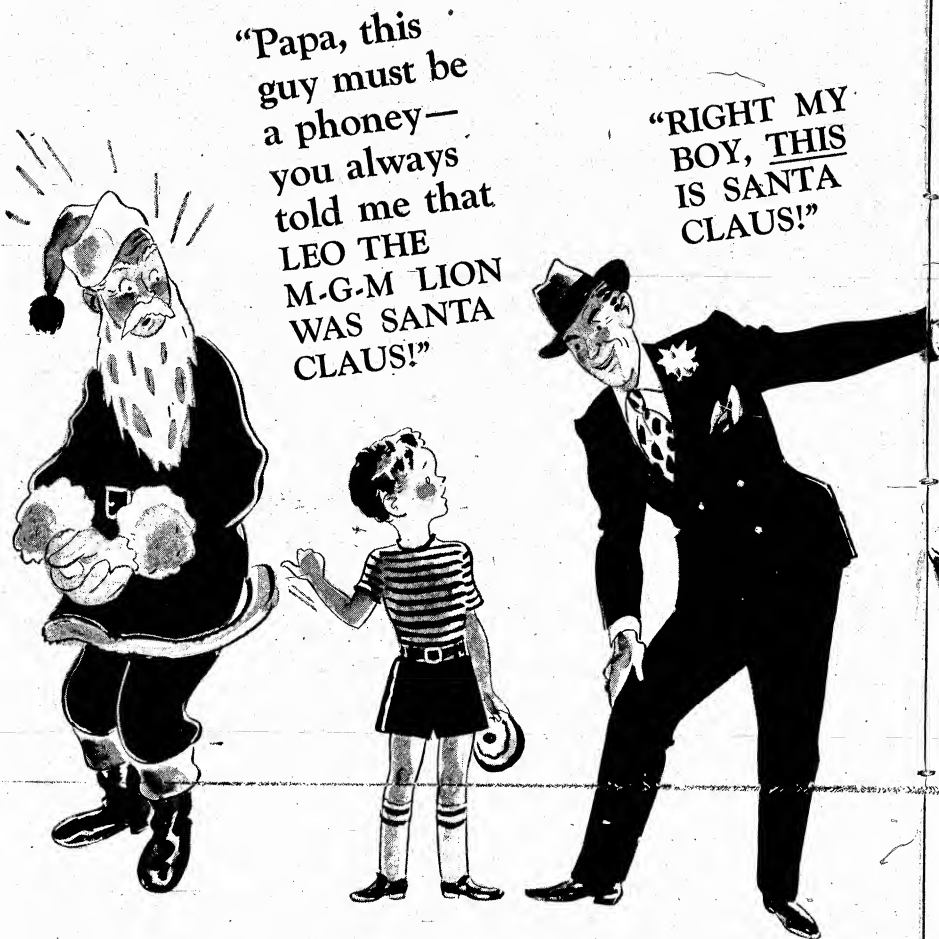
BRUCE CABOT • GENE LOCKHART • Directed by ROBERT FLOREY • Produced by ROBERT BUCKNER

Based Upon a Play by Lawrence Schwab, Otto Harbach, Oscar Hammerstein 2nd, Sigmund Romberg, & Frank Mandel









"Our Two Big Jobs in January:  
Fourth War Loan and March of Dimes"





# Pre-Xmas Pull Bops Hun, Tartu Sad

## \$27,000, 2 Spots, O'Rourke OK '86

Boston, Dec. 21. Biz is still on downtown here, with no signs of a lull-up. Film appears to have association with low level. Cold spell broke as new bills came in to the tendency to drop the figure in the normal season drop, and hang on. "Princess O'Rourke" is making big money.

**Estimates for This Week**  
Boston (RKO) (3:30); 44-99—  
"Roxie" Burns (M-G-M) (1:30) and  
Luncheon (RKO) (2:30) on stage.  
"Crash" (U) plus Richard Him-  
mercher, total \$21,000.

Foxes (MGP) (3:30); 40-60—  
"Roxie O'Grady" (20) and "Subma-  
rine Alert" (Par). Definitely off here.  
"Roxie O'Grady" (20) and "Subma-  
rine Alert" (Par) (M-G-M) (4:20).  
"Harvest Moon" (RKO) (2:30).  
"Fish Fanny" (U) and "She's for  
Me" (U) (24 wk). Held up week, at  
\$15,000. Last week, \$12,000. This  
week, \$10,000. Last week, \$10,000.

Metropolitan (Fox) (3:30); 35-65—  
"Princess O'Rourke" (WB) and  
"Traff" (WB). Not so bad considering  
the \$10,000. Last week, \$10,000. This  
week, \$10,000. Last week, \$10,000.

Orpheum (Loew) (2:30); 44-99—  
"Tartu" (M-G) and "Young Ideas" (M-G).  
"Tartu" (M-G) (2:30). Fairly low in spot, with  
\$10,000. Last week, \$10,000. This  
week, \$10,000. Last week, \$10,000.

Paramount (MGP) (1:30); 40-60—  
"Roxie O'Grady" (20) and "Subma-  
rine Alert" (Par). Low \$12,000, after  
\$10,000 at Met. Last week, \$10,000.  
"Crash" (U) and "Harvest Moon" (RKO).  
"Crash" (U) (24 wk). Last week, \$10,000.

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# Kuykendall Warns

Continued from page 5  
some talk of making it 40% next

"This means that organized exhibitors have a real job cut out for them in 1944. They will have to get kicked around again in Washington."

1c tax on Nickel

Washington, Dec. 21. On the eve of adjournment for the Christmas holidays, the Senate received from the Finance Committee today (21) a new tax bill which includes one slight concession in the 1c tax on nickel.

Finance Committee kept the 2c levy approved by the House but made a change which will result in a saving of approximately \$200,000 a year for theatre patrons and the exhibitors, instead of losing the levy on the dime, it is based on the nickel. Thus, there will be a 1c tax on nickel, instead of a fraction thereof, instead of 2c on each dime or fraction thereof. This means, for example, that the tax on a nickel admission would be 3c, rather than 4c.

The shift was made suddenly last Thursday (19) just before the committee's major work on the bill. Although these interests had made strong pleas before the committee, the change, it is significant, did not come as a direct result of these representations. Instead, it was made by Senator Charles McNary, Democratic, had appeared before the committee in executive session on Thursday (19). McNary, not a member of the Finance Committee, had been appearing before the committee in the theatre press. He moved into the picture himself in an 11-hour effort before the end of the day.

The \$200,000 reduction, if approved by the House, would mean a saving before and of about \$100,000. The \$200,000 reduction, if approved by the House, would mean a saving before and of about \$100,000.

Benefit of the change will be principally for the little neighborhood theatres, where the children's admissions. The total difference made by the shift will be 1c in some but not in admissions.

The revenue measure is not expected to pass Congress and become law before the end of the year. It will not become effective before Feb. 1, and possibly not before March 1. If there are any last minute hitches.

**RKO SPECIAL AD ADJUNCT**  
Coast unit of Foote, Cone & Belding, advertising agency handling the RKO account, is being set up to aid Charles W. Koerner, exec. in charge of RKO's special department with the Hollywood branch, to expedite RKO advertising campaigns.

**Pitt. Drops Off to New Low**  
Pittsburgh, Dec. 21. Just one word this week—O'Keefe. Pre-Xmas stunts is traditionally bad but the traction here abused this year. Stanley bumping along near his new record low with week's big drop. Penn can't remember when he has anything as poor as "Northern Pursuit". Harris should weather the storm with "Butler's Sister".

**Estimates for This Week**  
Pittsburgh (U) (24 wk). Last week, \$10,000. This week, \$10,000. Last week, \$10,000.

**Butler's Sister** (U). Not one of Durbin's strongest but it's the likeliest to hold in town. Last week, \$10,000. This week, \$10,000. Last week, \$10,000.

**Fulton** (Shelton) (1:30); 35-65—  
"Mad" (M-G) (2:30). Should do \$5,000, but all that can be expected. Last week, \$10,000. This week, \$10,000. Last week, \$10,000.

**Rain** (Loew) (2:30); 35-65—  
"Northern Pursuit" (WB) and "Butler's Sister" (U). Last week, \$10,000. This week, \$10,000. Last week, \$10,000.

**Par's Lamer Injured**  
In Italian Action  
First member of Paramount's homeoffice publicity staff to enter the service. For Harry Lamer, who was seriously wounded in Italy while serving with the American Field Hospital Service.

Lamer was in charge of a section of ambulance men and stretcher bearers. He never returned to the North African campaign.

# BEAUTY AND TELEVISION

By HARRY CONOVER  
(Who Should Know About Such Things)

In the 38th Anniversary Number of

# VARIETY

(Post-war Show Business Edition)

# EDGAR MOSS LEARNS ANYTHING FOR A RIB

Philadelphia, Dec. 21. Last year Edgar Moss, district manager of 20th Century-Fox, started to make a speech as retiring Club Barker of Variety Club's Tent 13.

In the midst of his speech, there were a number of interruptions—telegrams, a blackout—and the dinner adjourned before Moss could finish it.

Last week Dr. Leon Levy and his wife, Isaac H. Levy, and vice-president of WCAU, who was invited to the Ritz-Carlton to give Edgar a chance to finish his speech. All the city's hospitals were invited to hear Moss' deathless prose.

After a stuporous feed, former Attorney-General William A. Schneider was called on to deliver a eulogy for Moss. For 15 minutes Schneider read a long-winded treatise on the manufacture of glass, and then set down.

Bewildered, Moss arose to deliver his address. He began by saying, "I am honored to stand here tonight. I have been granted a number of interruptions—telegrams, a blackout—and the dinner adjourned before Moss could finish it."

Then the guests arose and left in a body. The Levy announced regretfully that the party had to finish the speech at that point. Moss is still hanging.

# Sid Young Re-elected

Sidney Young, formerly of the 20th-Fox tax department but now devoting all his time to the presidency of Screen Office & Production Employees Guild, N. Y., was re-elected to that post for another year at an annual meeting held during the past week at the Hotel Waldorf.

Other officers elected include Sam Shapiro, 20th, vice president; Harry Golding, United Artists, secretary; Charles Walsh, RKO, recording secretary; Telle Stein, National Screen Service, corresponding secretary; and Rose Valentine, a sergeant-at-arms.

An exec board of 12 and a trial board of 12 were also elected. Kelly, Roy; Halant, 20th; Ruth McDonald, UA and Henry Levy, NSS.

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# Frisco Still Wobbly But 'Old Okla.'

\$27, 'Butler's Sis' 18½¢, Both Ok

# BUFFALO COPS HOLLER 'HELP' IN ROWDY WAVE

Buffalo, Dec. 21. Recurrent stories that to vandalism in local picture theatres, the theatre amusement spots came to a head last week with newspaper stories broadcasted by the Buffalo Police Department and representatives of the Children's Aid Society. Officials called on parents for more rigid curbs on youngsters. Theatre managers interviewed attested generally to the prevalence of rebellious youngsters. Some of the managers, however, took the lack that the alleged acts of vandalism had been greatly overplayed.

Greatest difficulty locally seems to be the midnight and second show at which the audiences generally appear to regard the lid as off. Stories in circulation as to incidents—telegrams, a blackout—and the dinner adjourned before Moss could finish it.

Over the Yuletide circuit with the Youngsters, Hotel Managers, Olivia de Havilland, Ann Baxter, Lucille Ball, Kay Francis, Dick Powell, Young, Walter Pidgeon, Fred Murray, Warner Baxter, Wallace Beery, Franchot Tone and a host of others.

And from the Broadway legit stage, vaudeville and musicals. United Theatrical War Activities Committee will be sending the boys in the hospitals, to let them know that show business has not forgotten them. Acquaintance with the boys of trouping Santas—those representing the forces of USO-Camp Shows united with British ENSA performers in an almost continuous round-the-clock work of concentrated activity. In the British bases the U. S. show big larks will travel, with the Yank fighters to be treated to reciprocal entertainment.

Xmas radio shows are all the major theatre shows feature "Youngsters" programs, with two-way shows set up so that the boys over there can listen to the Yuletide wishes for a speedy victory and a happier New Year to the folks back home.

# Billy Rose

Continued from page 3  
which has the theatre as a usual N. J. closed because of private car restrictions.

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# Billy Rose

Continued from page 3  
which has the theatre as a usual N. J. closed because of private car restrictions.

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Another theatre outside the show zone has been purchased by the theatre managers, originally from the house, at 59th and Seventh avenue. House was dropped about the time the show went into rehearsal. It was originally called Johnson and has since had several names. Last week, the show's oddish attractions abandoned the spot.

San Francisco, Dec. 21. Prevalent Christmas cheer is being blamed for a general letup in newly air-filled houses.

**Estimates for This Week**  
San Francisco (RKO) (1:40); 75-100—  
"North Star" (RKO) (45 wk). True to Life" (Par) and "Ing" (WB). \$4,000. Last week, \$4,000. This week, \$4,000.

**Fox** (FOX) (8:00); 65-75—  
"True to Life" (Par) and "Ing" (WB). \$4,000. Last week, \$4,000. This week, \$4,000.

**Paramount** (RKO) (2:40); 55-75—  
"In Old Oklahoma" (RKO) and "Butler's Sister" (U). Last week, \$10,000. This week, \$10,000. Last week, \$10,000.

**St. Francis** (F-W) (1:47); 55-75—  
"Governor" (WB) and "Butler's Sister" (U). Last week, \$10,000. This week, \$10,000. Last week, \$10,000.

**Golden Gate** (RKO) (2:50); 55-75—  
"Governor" (WB) and "Butler's Sister" (U). Last week, \$10,000. This week, \$10,000. Last week, \$10,000.

**United Artists** (Blumfeld) (1:00); 55-75—  
"Governor" (WB) and "Butler's Sister" (U). Last week, \$10,000. This week, \$10,000. Last week, \$10,000.

**Cross, Hefty \$15,000, Pacing Rugged Prov.**  
One of best Christmas weekers is being enjoyed hereabouts with but one exception—O'Keefe. The pace, riding the crest are "Cross of Lorraine" at Loew's State and "Old Oklahoma" at the second week at Majestic.

**Albee** (RKO) (2:30); 30-50—  
"Son of the Gun" (U) and "Mad About" (U). Last week, \$10,000. This week, \$10,000. Last week, \$10,000.

**Carton** (Ray-Loew) (1:40); 30-50—  
"Son of the Gun" (U) and "Mad About" (U). Last week, \$10,000. This week, \$10,000. Last week, \$10,000.

**Fay's** (Fay) (2:30); 30-50—  
"Son of the Gun" (U) and "Mad About" (U). Last week, \$10,000. This week, \$10,000. Last week, \$10,000.

**Majestic** (Fay) (2:30); 30-50—  
"Son of the Gun" (U) and "Mad About" (U). Last week, \$10,000. This week, \$10,000. Last week, \$10,000.

**Metropolitan** (Snyder) (3:30); 35-65—  
"Son of the Gun" (U) and "Mad About" (U). Last week, \$10,000. This week, \$10,000. Last week, \$10,000.

**Three-day weekend run, fairly good. "Cross of Lorraine" (RKO) and "Something to Watch" (U) are the top draws on the way. Last week, \$10,000. This week, \$10,000. Last week, \$10,000.**

**WB Seals Stanwyck**  
Hollywood, Dec. 21. Barbara Stanwyck, currently playing the top role in "My Reputation" at the Fox, has been seen in a contract.

Star had been working on the lot for months under a one-picture deal.

**PRC's Uppeo Budgets**  
Upped budgets for "Minstrel Man" and "The Lights Go On Again" and others, are being outlined for Producers. J. M. Green, formerly assistant general manager of PRC, who has increased budgets on several recent productions have been justified by an upshot in sales.



# Earle Hedges for Philly House Record, \$48,515, Butler's 'Nice At \$21,500

Philadelphia, Dec. 21.—There's a general letdown at the boxoffice at downtown theaters this week, due mainly to the continuance of the epidemic of influenza and the usual stay-at-home tendencies of Philadelphia residents. Only the Earle, which held its prices for the week before Christmas, and the "Mystery Broadcast" on the screen, is showing up unimpaired. The Earle's new pic, making their bow this trip are: Butler's "Santa," Ellen Aronson and Son's "Dance," and "Wonderland at the Wickets."

**Estimates for This Week**  
**Alma** (WB) (1,300; 75-110)—"Bell Tolls" (Par) (7th wk). Winds up long and profitable run at upper prices of \$10,000. Last week, gross was \$14,500. Government (MG) (WB) opens tomorrow with prices returned to normal (35-75).

**Aradia** (Schlosky) (2,000; 35-75)—"My Wife" (U) (2d wk). Box \$21,500. Last week, "Princess O'Rourke" (WB) so \$4,000 for second run.

**Boyd** (WB) (2,500; 35-75)—"Lady Takes Chance" (RKO) (2d wk). Taking in the city much for \$11,000 for holdover, following fair \$18,800 last week, plus \$2,500 for second run.

**Earle** (WB) (2,750; 65-85)—"Mystery Broadcast" (WB) (2d wk). Show, featuring Frank Sinatra, Jan Savitt orchestra, and others. May have house record and prices, with \$48,515 in prospect. Last week, plus \$2,500 for second run.

**Carroll's** (WB) (2,750; 65-85)—"Mystery Broadcast" (WB) (2d wk). Show, featuring Frank Sinatra, Jan Savitt orchestra, and others. May have house record and prices, with \$48,515 in prospect. Last week, plus \$2,500 for second run.

**Fox** (WB) (2,245; 35-75)—"Butler's Sister" (U) (2d wk). Box \$18,500 and \$15,000 for second run. Last week, "Princess O'Rourke" (WB) (2d wk). Box \$18,500 and \$15,000 for second run.

**Kaction** (Goldman) (1,500; 35-75)—"Under Two Flags" (20th) (reissue) (U) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000. Last week, fair \$5,200.

**Keith's** (Goldman) (2,250; 35-75)—"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th) (reissue) (U) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000. Last week, "Corvette K-225" (U) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000.

**Northman** (WB) (2,000; 35-75)—"Old Acquaintance" (WB) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000. Last week, fair \$5,200.

**Stanley** (WB) (2,915; 35-75)—"Faint Heart" (WB) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000. Last week, "Sahara" (Col) (reissue) \$13,500 for third week after two sold out weeks.

**Stanton** (WB) (1,475; 35-75)—"Son of the Sea" (U) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000. Last week, "Hostages" (Par) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000.

**Mpls. Biz in Doghouse; 'Salute,' \$8,000, is Ace**  
**'Dood It' fild at 76**

Minneapolis, Dec. 21.—The week before Christmas, and even in itself at picture houses is this week is aggravated by the epidemic of influenza and the restricted street car and bus transportation, thus only coming in a little more than the three leading newcomers, "Salute to the Marines," "I Dood It" and "Hostages" are having tough going.

**Estimates for This Week**  
**"Dangerous Blondes"** (Col) and **"Honey House"** (WB) (2,000; 35-75)—"Salute" (WB) (2d wk). Box \$18,000. Last week, "Scream in Dark" (RKO) and "Mysterious Broadcast" (WB) (2d wk). Box \$18,000 and \$10,000.

**Lyrie** (P-S) (1,001; 40-55)—"Northern Pursuit" (WB) (2d wk). Box \$15,000. Last week, "True to Life" (U) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000.

**Orpheum** (WB) (2,000; 40-55)—"I Dood It" (MG). Mild \$7,000 anticlimax. Last week, "Northern Pursuit" (WB) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000.

**State** (P-S) (2,300; 40-55)—"Salute Marines" (MG). Good \$8,000 received and good enough \$5,000 is likely. Last week, "Claudia" (20th). Good \$10,000.

**Uptown** (Par) (1,100; 30-40)—"Ben Foy Forward" (MG). Same. Last week, "Claudia" (20th). Good \$10,000.

**West** (Par-S) (2,000; 40-55)—"Claudia" (20th) (2d wk). Moved west from State. Light \$12,500. Last week, "Rose O'Grady" (20th). 4th wk, blah \$10,000.

## Broadway Grosses

**Estimated Total Gross**  
**This Week**.....\$419,000  
 (Based on 14 theatres)  
**Last Week**.....\$322,000  
 (Based on 13 theatres)

## 'ACQUAINTANCE' BEST IN SLOW N.W.K. \$18,500

Newark, Dec. 21.—Biz continues to take in on the cheap with the paucity of marquee strength an added factor in the slowdown caused by the pre-holiday lull. Pic epidemic is also helping to keep the customers away. Best of the week, "Old Acquaintance" (WB) (2d wk), at the Bradford, which is holding its own.

**Estimates for This Week**  
**Adams** (Adams-Par) (1,500; 35-90)—"Man from Music Mountain" (RKO) and **Watson's** (Lain Quarter) (WB) (2d wk). Box \$15,000. Last week, "Fairly Honest" (WB) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000.

**Brantford** (WB) (2,300; 30-90)—"Old Acquaintance" (WB) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000. Last week, "Corvette K-225" (U) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000.

**Capitol** (WB) (1,175; 20-55)—"Crime School" (WB) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000. Last week, "Corvette K-225" (U) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000.

**Paramount** (Adams-Par) (2,000; 35-85)—"No Time for Love" (Par) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000. Last week, "Corvette K-225" (U) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000.

**Proctor's** (RKO) (3,400; 35-110)—"Holy Matrimony" (20th) and **Parlars** (U) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000. Last week, "Corvette K-225" (U) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000.

**State** (Lewy's) (2,500; 30-85)—"Salute Marines" (MG). Good \$8,000 received and good enough \$5,000 is likely. Last week, "Claudia" (20th). Good \$10,000.

**Uptown** (Par) (1,100; 30-40)—"Ben Foy Forward" (MG). Same. Last week, "Claudia" (20th). Good \$10,000.

**West** (Par-S) (2,000; 40-55)—"Claudia" (20th) (2d wk). Moved west from State. Light \$12,500. Last week, "Rose O'Grady" (20th). 4th wk, blah \$10,000.

## METRO BRANCH MGRS. INTO N.Y. FOR POWWOW

Metro is mulling plans to bring its branch managers into New York for a sales meeting in the near future.

It would be the first time in three years that Metro's branch managers have been called in for home office huddles.

The execs are considering the move as a means of providing closer contact with field forces.

## Gerard's Double Takeoff

Howard Hughes draws a double takeoff break from a contract as producer at 20th-Pow.

Previously Gerard had been assigned production of "Ladies in White," which Louis Luntz will direct. Both pictures will run early.

## Plenty of red ink in firstfruits this week with few new attractions

Plenty of red ink in firstfruits this week with few new attractions braving the combo threat of new weather, week-before-Xmas lull and prevalence of the numerous spots made in marketing.

To hold present pictures to launching new fare or trying to buck the trend. Even the previously strong films went into nose-dives many places with those doing even less business retail.

"Madame Curie" (MG), "Desert Song" (WB) and "Gangster All Stars" (20th), are the only strictly fresh attractions to show in the week.

Roxy's choice for the holiday push, is doing only moderately at \$15,000 in two Seattle theatres. "Curie," which even less business retail, is doing better.

"Gangster All Stars" (20th) is doing better at \$15,000 on opening session at the N. Y. Music Hall. "Song" looks like \$10,000 on the same.

"Butter's Sister" (U), launched previously, is riding on the storm of dismal returns on many pictures with its pleasing to studio business in some cities. It's nice \$31,500 to pace Philadelphia films.

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## Mont' Strike Plus Flu Hurts; 'Down Under' 10G

Montreal, Dec. 21.—Police and flu have stricken the city this Tuesday (41) cut grosses while the flu and Xmas shopping are also denting sales currently.

**Estimates for This Week**  
**Palmer** (CPI) (2,700; 35-90)—"Man Down Under" (MG). Sighting okay. Last week, "Hill for Me" (U) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000.

**Capitol** (CPI) (2,700; 35-90)—"Apartment in Berlin" (Col) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000. Last week, "Hill for Me" (U) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000.

**Princess** (CPI) (2,300; 35-90)—"Text as to Tokio" (U) and **Vulcan Co-Eds** (RKO). Pointing nice \$5,000 in tough week. "Dangerous Blondes" (Col) and **Luck, Mr. Yates** (Col) both \$5,000.

**Strut** (MG) (2,000; 35-90)—"Amusement" (750; 35-45)—"Mr. Mugs" (Steps Out) (MG) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000. Last week, "Campus Rhythms" (MG) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000.

**Orpheum** (Ind) (1,100; 20-60)—"Jungle" (WB) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000. Last week, "Campus Rhythms" (MG) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000.

**St. Denis** (France-Film) (2,500; 30-90)—"Cavaliere" (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000. Last week, "Campus Rhythms" (MG) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000.

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## L.A. Blames Rain, Flu, Pre-Xmas For Sloppy Biz; 'Curie' \$52,100 4 Spots

Los Angeles, Dec. 21.—Flu, rains and usual pre-Xmas lull are contributing to sagging boxoffice at downtown theaters this week, with four West Coast houses, in pacing city with \$23,000, while "Northern Pursuit" (WB) (2d wk), is likely \$14,000, neither big. "Hostages" (Par) (2d wk), is likely \$14,000, neither big. "Hostages" (Par) (2d wk), is likely \$14,000, neither big.

**Estimates for This Week**  
**Carthy Circle** (F-WC) (1,515; 45-90)—"Flesh Fantasy" (U) and **Mystery Broadcast** (Rep) (6 days). Last week, \$2,500 on short week after short \$7,400 last week.

**Madame Curie** (MG) (2,000; 45-90)—"Madame Curie" (MG) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000. Last week, "Campus Rhythms" (MG) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000.

**Orpheum** (Ind) (1,100; 20-60)—"Jungle" (WB) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000. Last week, "Campus Rhythms" (MG) (2d wk). Box \$15,000 and \$10,000.

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CABLE ADDRESS, UNFILMAN

**Universal Pictures Company, Inc.**  
 PACIFIC COAST STUDIOS  
 UNIVERSAL CITY, CALIFORNIA

**Wer'e Home**

HI, GANG!

We're back and bustin' to go! Thanks from the heart for all your good wishes during the lay-off.

We're digging in for bigger things at Universal, and a greater year on the radio.

Thanks again to everyone. It's really swell to be back with you.

Sincerely,

*Burton  
 Abbott*

**Universally Yours ABBOTT**

Again...  
and  
we  
**LOVE  
IT!**



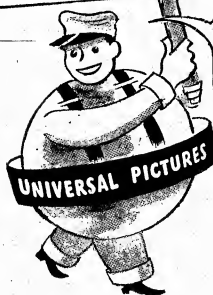
Lou tells a good one to Cliff Work, Nate Blumberg, George Raft and Milton Feld on the Universal lot.



"Welcome home, Lou," says Deanna Durbin!



Back home again at Universal—  
and up to their old tricks!



No foolin' folks...  
the laughs and  
gags are pilin' up  
a mile a minute!



This PARAMOUNT Pair  
Are Tops On The Air!



Paramount Leads In Radio  
Favorites Too, As Its Stars  
Cop 6 Tops—9 Awards—  
In Official 1943 Poll Of  
Nation's Radio Editors!

**BOB (Champion-of-Champions) HOPE**

**BING (Ace-Singer-and-M.C.) CROSBY**

Our two big jobs in January: Fourth War Loan and March of Dimes.



"God grant a  
Merry Christmas  
to you who  
remember us,  
the less  
fortunate."



It's a Christmas card that spreads true happiness. Mail it Today!

*Here's My  
Pledge!*

To Nicholas M. Schenck, Chairman,  
National Motion Pictures Committee,  
1944 MARCH OF DIMES Drive,  
Suite 173, Astor Hotel, New York City

Realizing how important it is to keep up the  
fight against Infantile Paralysis, I pledge my  
complete cooperation in the motion picture  
industry's campaign to raise funds for this neces-  
sary war of the home front.

During the week of January 24-30, I promise  
to show the appeal trailer and make audience  
collections in my auditorium.

Send full details.

*Signed*



**MOTION PICTURES' MARCH OF DIMES DRIVE-1944**



The one picture all will want to see is  
 "Three Russian Girls!"

The one company for  
 well-timed hits  
all the time is  
 United Artists

R-F Productions Present  
**"Three  
 Russian  
 Girls"**

Starring  
**ANNA STEN • KENT SMITH**  
 with Mimi Forsythe • Alexander Granach  
 Cathy Frye • Paul Guilfoyle • Kane Richmond

Adaptation by Maurice Clark and Victor Trivas • Based upon photo-play "The Girl From Leningrad" • Screen play by Allen Kandel and Dan Jaffe • A GREGOR RABINOVITCH Production • Associate Producer EUGENE FRENKE • Directed by Fedor Chup and Henry Keeler • Released thru UNITED ARTISTS



# Fakirs Out-Fake Fakers

Continued from page 1

comedies, and once they got to an American film star they got the best of them. There were even pictures of Ginger Rogers playing at one time in Calcutta. India boasts many famous film houses, which are as good and lavish as any we have in America. They all contain a restaurant and bar, serving delicious food. In the middle of a feature film there is always a 30-minute break for one to get a bite to eat, a cup of tea and cakes or a drink. Scotch may still be gotten, but terribly expensive.

Many houses show a first-run American film in the morning, and another in the evening. Pilgrims in the morning have breakfast in the theatre, and if they wish it served to their seats while watching the picture, the prices run about \$50 on the average for a decent seat, with gallery running about \$35.

**The Doolay Wilson of India.**  
Night club business is sensational in Calcutta and Bombay. You have to wait in line for a picture, and the clubs and the clubs that are running are as big as the Hurricane and Billy Rose's Theatre. There is a lot of American Negro, Teddy Weatherford, who has been in India and the Far East for 15 years. This is a terrible story. When he was over here for years he determined to go back to America as soon as he had a certain sum of money. It took him 15 years to do so. He booked passage to England, planning to stop in London for a few weeks and then back to his home town, Bluefield, West Virginia, to show the folks that he had made good. Two weeks out of India war was declared and he had to return to Calcutta, where he led the band night at the Grand hotel, the best in the town. He plans to be on the first boat leaving here when the war is over and who can blame him? He really can tickle those pricks and loves to play all the clubs for the Americans.

**(The Late) Clark Robinson.** who was a captain in special services here in India, has just been upped to major. Robinson produced a terrific show with all GI talent, called it "Gum Happy." What a title for Mike Todd, eh? In it is Al Roth, who also assisted Robinson on the show. Roth was in the WOR artists bureau. Also in the show is Jack Newman, of the St. Louis Municipal Opera, and a bunch of GIs who had never been on the stage before. They have been such a terrific hit that they are slated to go to America and play all the Air Corps installations.

Also written and news of Major Robinson's death in action has been received in the U. S.—Ed.  
Also proving a crowd favorite is Frankie Beck, former burlesque comedian, idol of the show-starved boys, coming on against the japs under the most narrowing conditions. High on the favorite list is Ray Hulse, a 26-lb. lad from Baltimore, who sings original songs and in manner of presenting them has whammed them from one end of India to the other. Jimmy Wensley, who worked for

years in Syracuse and Rochester in India as is also Paul Kraus, who formerly managed the Univ. of Indiana Playhouse.

**Charlie Sievers There.**  
Came over on the boat with Charlie Sievers, former night editor of the N. Y. World-Telegram, now a PFC in the Air Corps. Katharine Lawson, who appeared with Lunk and Sontime in several shows, is a new arrival in India and heading one of the Red Cross offices. Sievers is proving a swell traveler and getting things done.

Most outfits try to stage a dance once a month or two months, and if they are very lucky have a musical class playing for them. There are plenty of musicians available, but no instruments. A sax, second hand, costs \$200 in Calcutta. If you can find one. When no musicians are playing, the good ole wheezy phonograph carries on, with cracked records, and a hit time of two or three sessions ago. There is such a crying need for late records! I know of one outfit that has a record of the Petrillo band, but the ones of the year before that would be most welcome. The Red Cross also attend the dances than the needle in the haystack. Sometimes if you are lucky, the Red Cross will have a dance for four japs, who often come from 50 to 60 miles and have to dance with hundreds of enlisted men. American magazines and papers, when they get here, are from three to four months late. But better late than never. For the folks who receive them avidly eat up all the home news.

**BESA's Show Biz Pitch.**  
An organization whose prestige is leaning about is the BESA. That's a civilian organization, presenting British enlisted men and musicians in touring shows, playing American and British camps as well. It's comparable to our USO. These lads are really "okay." Many of them have been on the stage and are grateful for the chance that the Bengal Enlisted Men's Service has given them in detaching them from their organizations and playing for the GIs and Tommies. BESA started in Aug. of 1942 in Calcutta. Now it has its own theatre there, the Garrison, where they offer their musicals and dramatic shows, and they compare with anything that we have in the States.  
Joel McCrea and Joe E. Brown are in India entertaining the boys. Al Johnson is rumored as coming over upon recovering from his illness. Harry Harris, one of the original rhythm boys (Bing Crosby, Al Rinker and Harris), who came here with "Pops" Whiteman for years, is also in India, as is Capt. Mike Franchini, the former professional football player, now a Special Service officer.

Bailey, for years Eddie Davis' piano player, who arrived here last year as a Corp, has done a swell. "...and that he received a direct commission. " and is now Spe-

cial Service Officer in China for the 14th Air Force.

The crying need for the boys in India is flesh entertainment, especially japs, and newer and brighter pictures. The ones we have seen are at least a year old. And tell the boys to drop for a visit one of these camp-dumpy days.

## STREETCAR STOPPAGE

**NO HELP TO MPLS. LOOP**  
Minneapolis, Dec. 21.—Curtailed of street car and bus service because of the action of the streetcar employees' union in stoppage of the streetcar service another headache for Mpls. theatres already suffering much grief because of the flu epidemic, extreme cold and the usual pre-Christmas slump. It was announced that after-theatre transportation would have to be cut up to 50%. The union took its "no overtime" action in protest against the war labor board's failure to confirm a long-standing arbitration award of an 8c an hour wage increase, retroactive to Jan. 1.

Gas rationing has caused many car owners to put up their machines for the winter, leaving a severe shortage of taxis and cabs, and bus transportation has been the heaviest in all local history since the war.

The film industry anticipates that the development will bring boxoffice patronage in its wake. Below zero temperatures, snow and ice are not conducive to thawing when transportation is not readily available.

## Studio Contracts

Continued from page 8

Frank Fenton and Lynn Roth contracted as writing team at RKO. Fenton, who has been under contract to Lesser for three pictures. Melville Burke, production assistant, optioned by RKO. Adelaide Norris drew player ticket at Paramount.

Edward Dmytryk, director, renewed by RKO. Steve Winston's player contract renewed by Paramount. Dorothy Day drew player pick at Metro.

Susan Hayward renewed by Paramount. Tom Burdon's acting option lifted by RKO. Barbara Hale inked player pick at RKO.

Sydney Greenstreet's option lifted by Warner. Colleen Townsend's minor contract with Warner approved by RKO. Harry Clay's player option renewed by RKO.

Edward Anderson, actor, taken up by RKO. Peggy O'Neill's player option renewed by RKO. George R. Rogers, Marcia Lennox handed player contract by Genack Raintovich. Fred Astaire inked player pick with Charles R. Rogers. Johnny Coy's player option picked up by Paramount.

Carroll Denison drew acting ticket at 20th-Fox. Peggy Ann Garner renewed by 20th-Fox.

## Larsson Heads Boothmen

Hollywood, Dec. 21.—Projectionists Local 150 swept the all-LAEC leaders out of office by overwhelming vote at the annual election. W. V. Larsson beat E. C. Hamilton for the presidency, 244 to 88, and George Shaffer was elected business manager over E. Robbins by 245 to 88.

## STORY BUYS

Hollywood, Dec. 21.—Metro bought Fairfax Downey's biography of Richard Harding Davis. "East and West" correspondence. Columbia acquired screen rights to "U-Boat Prisoner" by Archie Hadd. Paramount bought "The Night of Live" tale of social problems, by James Moll. RKO purchased "Capricornia," tropic tale by Xavier Hernandez. Charles E. Hewitt sold his juvenile delinquency yarn, "Youth Gone Wild," to Monogram. Warner bought "Made in Heaven," unproduced legit play by Muriel Roy Bolton. RKO purchased Alan Hyde's novel, "Betrayal" from the Metro acquired "Jennie Was a Lady," original story by George Oppenheim and Charles Leacock. John C. Houseman sold "The Valley of Decision" to Paramount.

Warner bought "Pal," Paramount producer, bought Jack Miller's "The Big Rock Candy Mountain" for a Puppetoon.

## Moontide in Vermont

Montpelier, Vt., Dec. 21.—The farm needs hand she returns home, to be followed by the students to help with the harvesting. It's natural that the kids turn in also to stage a show for the tourists as evidence of presenting a new production turn. Montpelier performs who displays possibilities of sticking around pictures for some time with good popularity and footwork needs better takeoff than some one. Miss Joan is also under wraps in both the acting and singing lines, and other cast members are handicapped by forced theories of the script and dilution. Best of group of songs contributed by Inez James and Sidney Miller. "Be a Good, Good Girl," but it's too weak for pop attention.

## Up With the Lark

(MUSICAL-DRAMA)

(Songs)  
London, Dec. 21.—New Robin Pictures production and release. Directed by Paul Benoit and with Robert Reiner, Grace West, Dorothy, Janet, and John. Released by New Robin Pictures. At Atlantic City, N. J., 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 1943. Running time, 58 MIN.

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## Film Reviews

Continued from page 12

Brandon's direction is as good as the story deserves.

Of seven songs, "A Place in the Sun for Everyone and 'You're a Sweetheart in a Million' are good.

## Overland Mail Robbery

Reputable review of Louis Garau production. Directed by John Edgar. Features Anne Jeffreys, George S. Irving, and George S. Irving. Released by New Robin Pictures. At Atlantic City, N. J., 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 1943. Running time, 58 MIN.

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Will Hill, Dorothy, Janet,



It is with a deep feeling of responsibility and pride  
that I announce my next production,  
the story of America's first flying general

# "BILLY MITCHELL"

*Based on Isaac Don Levine's Biography of General "Billy" Mitchell*

This picture is to be produced with the cooperation  
of all the members of General Mitchell's family and  
the assistance of the United States Army Air Forces.

*A share of the proceeds will go to the*

*Army Air Forces' Aid Society*

SAMUEL BRONSTON

Now in release thru United Artists

"JACK LONDON"









Christmas To All  
of Charm  
ORCHESTRA  
and  
PITALNY

## Mutual Report Indicates \$14,000,000

## B.O. in '43—40% Boost Over '42

Mutual's sales for the current year will exceed \$14,000,000, representing a 40% gain from 1942, according to a published company report just released, dated 1943 in Review.

In booklet form, the report was compiled for distribution to about 8,000 at agencies, sponsors, affiliate stations and others. It covers the whole Mutual sector and progress with blurb on programming, war activity efforts and public service. Call letters of affiliates are listed, as are company executives.

Oddity is that net's sales only hit the previous year's average during most of the months of 1943. Yet, swinging started in April, and sales mounted steadily in subsequent months. By October, sales exceeded total cumulative business of preceding year.

In the way of war effort programs, Mutual broadcast 1,468 during the year.

In cooperation with the Army, net broadcast 365 programs: Navy, 230 and Treasury, 75.

The net's present hookup of 211 stations includes 96 in the Radio City Network, which, since the war, has become the domestic spot, gives Mutual outlets in the U. S., Mexico, Canada, and Europe. Something new in a Program Operating Board was inaugurated in 1943. Idea is to improve program quality and live air station program heads huddle monthly with network officials, with an eye toward purchasing and developing desirable program material.

Miller McClintock, head of the net, in a short foreword to the booklet expresses a desire on behalf of Mutual to serve in a broadening and more effective manner the national fraternity, the interests of the American public and the vast objectives of our war effort.

## Orson Welles Show

## Set But Only 11 Cast

## Outlets Now Available

Orson Welles-Rita Hayworth radio show for December 23, 1943, will debut Jan. 12 on CBS, but until CBS clears eastern and midwestern time will find outlets on only two stations. Program will originate in N. Y. at 12:30 a. m. and is to be piped west for airing at 8:30 p. m. Jimmy Durante will guest on the initial show while Claudia Morgan and Paul Brown's orchestra will provide permanent residents. Pearson and White will write the show, Jack Johnston will direct.

During the second audition of the program last week both Welles and Rita Hayworth collapsed with flu. Later Dan Seymour announced passed out the same way, although they managed to complete the audition. Welles was still not well enough to do the last 14 days (Nov. 19) to do a complete guest show. He was ill and he was replaced by James Melton. Whether he will go for Allen and the Public-News show on Sunday (25), depends on his recovery.

## Clapper's Sub This Time

## Likely to Be Gunnison

Royal Arch Gunnison will probably sub for Raymond Clapper on the two-night weekly Mutual program for White-Owl, when Clapper leaves for the South Pacific. The Gunnison's regular MBS sustaining series begins tonight (22).

It'll be Clapper's second overseas tour. He previously has been in Sweden, Africa and England.

## De Castro's New Chore

Allie de Castro, in addition to his daytime playback stint for Mutual, will be written on the MBS commercial sales department.

De Castro's new job embraces working up auditioning ideas for salesmen.

## Hackett With Kendall Agency

Cecil H. Hackett, former WINS publicity director, has been named the Abbott Kendall agency as well in charge of new bio and sales.

## Xmas: Nazi Style

Washington, Dec. 21. Nazi Danzig radio is putting on dramatic gifts for local consumers, suggesting an ideal radio set, suggesting an ideal radio set, suggesting an ideal radio set.

One sketch had an actor urging the purchase of footstools to be used in shelters. Another sketch commented he would persuade his own children to make a combination "candlestick and microphone set" for use in shelter "if the electric light fails."

## ARCH OBOLER

Treats With the

## 'Future of Creative Radio Writing'

In

## VARIETY'S

Post-War Show Business

Number.

(38th Anniversary)

## Hope Now First In Hooper Ratings

The Fibber McGee program maintained its 32.4 rating in the Dec. 15 Hooper analysis, but dropped to second place as Bob Hope marked up 3.1 to lead the commercial program. Hope's rating was 21.5. Jack Benny jumped from sixth to fourth place in the current listing, climbing over Lux Radio Theatre and the Aldrich Family, who topped him in the previous chart. The Edgar Bergen-Charlie McCarthy show remained in seventh place, with a 9.8 rating as against a November figure of 9.2.

Hooper ratings revealed a figure of 31.7 for sets in use, representing an increase of almost 5% over the Nov. 20 figure. Average rating is up 3% from last report.

The first 10 shows for the week, Dec. 1 to 7, were:

Bob Hope	32.4
Fibber McGee	32.1
Charlie McCarthy	29.5
Jack Benny	24.7
Radiation	24.5
Aldrich Family	24.1
M.D. A.	23.7
Monty	23.6
Eddie Cantor	22.2
Winchell	22.2
Shirley	21.5

—tied for 8th.

## Ex-NBC Script Ed. With

## Paratroopers in Sicily

Brian Disque, formerly assistant script editor of NBC before he enlisted in the Army nearly two years ago, was with the air-borne transport service that dropped initial American paratroopers in Sicily.

Disque now is a major in the troop carrier division. He had trained in the south before going overseas.

## Blue Exec Sees Many Public Service Shows Going Commercial After War

Chicago, Dec. 21. An ever-increasing number of public service type of shows will probably command sponsorship in the months-to-come and particularly in the post-war era, according to James F. Stinton, central division manager of the Blue Network. The sponsorship of the Boston Symphony orchestra is the most recent illustration of a trend that has become more and more prevalent in the past few months, Stinton pointed out.

With a greater number of public service programs sponsored, there will be a reduction in the number of such programs offered on a sustaining basis, said Stinton. The Blue Network is now carrying a heavy schedule of war message programs after the war many of these programs will be replaced by public service programs in other fields, but in the interest of good program balance, war service shows will be replaced in part by programs of an entertainment nature. The public service field, emphasis will be placed on the development of fewer pro-

Chicago, Dec. 21.

New program, titled 'Continental Club of 1944', is being put together by the Music Corp. of America for an assumed sponsor. Show will star Carl Brisson with Jack Cutler and Carl Gass as the writers.

Format of the show will deal with historical and modern events that have influenced the lives and habits of people all over the world. First shows will deal with the development of musical comedy and it was handled 75 years ago and the origin of the opera. Drama, humor and music will be used on the show.

## Autolie-Oboler Show

## To Replace Goodyear

## Tues. 'Salute' on NBC

Arch Oboler's new dramatic series in which Ronald Colman will star, Tuesday, Dec. 22, at 8 p. m. on NBC, last night in the Tuesday early evening spot being vacated by Goodyear's program on Tuesday. The show for Autolie will be aired at 7:30 p. m. EDT with likely repeat of half-hour from last report.

Gordon Jenkins, musical director during auditions of Oboler's latest opus, seems set for the permanent hostess position. Jenkins, 34, of Tufts, West Coast head of Ruthrauff and Ryan, has not yet picked a producer.

## Lucille Manners No

## Longer a Radio Exclusive

For the first time in the seven years she's been parted to star in the NBC television series "The Lucille Manners Show," Lucille Manners will be permitted to guest show on other radio stations. The contract she signed included in a renewal contract just signed for 1944. Hereafter her contract with the Cities Service was on an exclusive basis.

New pact, marking the start of her eighth year on the program, goes into effect Jan. 28. Foote, Cone & Belding is the agency, with the National Concert Artists Corp. representing Miss Manners in the deal.

In the immediate post-war period, the Blue net plans to devote considerable attention to dramatic series programs, especially during the daytime. The Baby Institute series, providing educational material to mothers of small children, is an example of the type of shows the Blue net is developing.

Increased development of programs in which "educational" material is developed into entertainment rather than "educational" programs intended for use in school classrooms. In the interest of the war phase being developed by the Blue.

The war has demonstrated the effectiveness with which war messages can be presented in entertainment programs, with the "message" variety of radio and continuing the phase being developed by the Blue. The war has demonstrated the effectiveness with which war messages can be presented in entertainment programs, with the "message" variety of radio and continuing the phase being developed by the Blue.

## 'Visiting Firemen' (Politics) on War Fronts, USO Snags Him By Mueller

By LESTER TUROFF

The News Documentary—Now and Post-War

By PAUL (CBS) WHITE

Featured in the

38th Anniversary Number

## VARIETY

(Post-war Show Business Edition)

## Pidgeon Squares Off Vs. Bergen

Hollywood, Dec. 21.

Deal has been closed with Walter Pidgeon to head a dramatic series for Goodyear, starting Jan. 30 over the air from here at 7:30 p. m. Dramatic series will co-star Pidgeon with spotlight film performers in roles which have won them acclaim. Rupert Lucas, who produces Silver Theatre for Young & Rubikoff, highly draws the Goodyear direction. Program is spotted opposite Edgar Bergen's kaffee klatch.

Tom Hartington, Y. & R. radio chief, trained back to New York after signing contracts but returned Jan. 5 to whip the show into shape and make other assignments.

Producer Joe Hill of the air space hauls east tomorrow (Wed.), a week in advance of the troupe, turning over production of the last broadcast to Walter Bunker Jr.

'DUFFY' EAST FOR NEXT

13, THEN BACK FOR PIC

Hollywood, Dec. 21.

'Duffy's Tavern' moves back to its old stand in Manhattan after Dec. 22 broadcast here to put in a full period of broadcasting before pulling straps again for the Coast. Paramount hopes to get started on 'Duffy's Tavern' when Ed Gardner and his troupe check in at the studio next April.

Producer Joe Hill of the air space hauls east tomorrow (Wed.), a week in advance of the troupe, turning over production of the last broadcast to Walter Bunker Jr.

ODT Travel Plea Cues

## Vox Pop Denver Repeat

To carry out requests of ODT to curb civilian travel during year-end holiday period, Vox Pop, which broadcasts each Monday over CBS, will have two shows on consecutive days, Dec. 22 and 23. The "Vox Pop" view' show covered the Highlanders organization for youngsters, on Monday (20) and next Monday will cover the photo ground crew of U. S. Army Air Force at Lowry Field near Denver.

Parks Johnson gets a break even away from home Christmas because his son, Bill, is in the line now at Colorado U. in Denver.

Radio Exe Club Sets

## Charity, Xmas Party

Radio Executives Club at a meeting Tuesday (18) at Stinson Hotel, finishing touches on plans for Xmas party at the hotel tomorrow (Thursday) for two and three days. Guests. Proceeds from the affair will be donated to Army and Navy relief.

Last week's luncheon session included a prolonged big meeting at which revisions of constitution and by-laws were approved and changes in organization's setup resulted, officers reported.

## FRANK RUSSELL BETTER

Washington, Dec. 21.

Frank M. Russell, NBC vice in charge of Washington operations, is likely to be recommended for a job of pneumonia and will be back at work shortly after Christmas. He is scheduled to return in time to attend the NBC management meeting in New York, Dec. 22.

The USO is being restricted so much in its overseas operations that it is not able to do as effective a job as it could. But the "Red" Mueller, NBC foreign correspondent who has been covering the situation in the USO, has expressed his viewpoint of USO activities in the war theaters.

Most of the top jobs being done in the USO in spite of the difficulties and the fact that the "Red" Mueller, NBC foreign correspondent who has been covering the situation in the USO, has expressed his viewpoint of USO activities in the war theaters.

Most of the top jobs being done in the USO in spite of the difficulties and the fact that the "Red" Mueller, NBC foreign correspondent who has been covering the situation in the USO, has expressed his viewpoint of USO activities in the war theaters.

March 1944, the Straight Man.

He also told about Manners' playing straight man for comedian Sammy Davis Jr. and about the "Red" Mueller, NBC foreign correspondent who has been covering the situation in the USO, has expressed his viewpoint of USO activities in the war theaters.

most minor fronts including the rest of the French in France, the rest of the British in North Africa, the American invasions of North Africa, Sicily and Italy and the campaigns in New Guinea, China and India. His present plans call for a rest and then a lecture tour, to devote the next few weeks to the Red Cross, the USO and Army Emergency Relief. He expects to be away for two and three days taking up another post abroad.

CARSON SHOW GETS NEW

## FORMULA BY PRAEGER

Change of format in situation comedy has been decreed by the Jack Carson show by Bert Praeger of Fox. The show will now be produced by 'who'll remain here to produce for Ted Wick.

Henry Taylor and Harvey Goode form the new writing battery.

Sgt. Stick, Fulton Lewis

## Aide, Gets Marine Post

Washington, Dec. 21. Sgt. Dave Stick, U.S.M.C., who has been in the office of Fulton Lewis, Jr., of Mutual web, before the war, has just been appointed to the staff of the newly established Third Wing Public Relations Office.

Stick is just back in the United States following eight months of duty as a combat correspondent in the British West Indies.



# THE FUTURE OF AIR

## The Pace Is Fast

As the big comedy programs swing into mid-season there can be no denying that the pace has become terrific.

Think back for a minute and recall the snack comedy shows you have heard to date this season. There have been so many.

But what may not have been particularly noticed is that the majority of these solid laugh programs, those half hours which strike a spark of spontaneity and burst into outright hilarity, have been provided by those programs originating in the regular network studios.

In other words, there doesn't seem much use in longer denying that the service camp comedy radio shows are evidently a snare and a delusion to their professional participants.

It is fine comedians are making these service camp tours at no little cost to themselves in effort, time, and inconvenience. Their willingness to do this, taken from any standpoint, is obviously beyond criticism. So it is to be regretted, although it must necessarily be said, that these camp shows (with the whistling and yelling of the G.I.'s) appear to be definitely slowing up the comics playing before the boys in the service. Meanwhile, the shows originating in their studios are leaping ahead.

It's that applause after each gag that is throttling the service camp comedians. There just is no doubt about it—those constant applause interruptions throw the comics off their timing and slow-up the whole program.

Nothing secret about it, either. The problem of applause after each gag, the hallmark of an amateurish audience, was recognized as a distinct handicap when the laugh radio programs first started to tour the camps. But due to the impediment of constant applause has been sort of shifted to the background as something you just can't do anything about.

Still, that's not the danger to the camp show comics. Their peril is in the implication that they have commenced to believe that applause after each laugh line. And so not only is their timing somewhat less than it should be, also their material too often follows being slightly on the careless side. At least, that's the way it has been coming in on the parlor radio sets—and those are the sets that count in the long run.

The remedy? No, it is not to give up doing camp shows. Neither the performers themselves, nor their sponsors, want to deprive the service boys of any entertainment they may be capable of bringing them.

The remedy is a renewed determination to battle the problem of camp show applause, plus the resolve to tighten up on material to offset what comes over the air as a degree of neglect perhaps derived by taking the uniformed boys' applause too seriously.

The comedy shows originating in their network studios are moving fast this season. So awfully fast.

## Musical Revivals Format of New Ballantine Show

A new type of radio show, reviving weekly the top Broadway musical-comedies of past years, and starring whenever possible the leads in the original productions, makes its bow Dec. 27 on CBS in the 10-10:15 p. m. Monday spot. Show is being sponsored by Ballantine brewery, with J. Walter Thompson as the agency.

Initial program will be the Rodgers-Hart-Fields musical, "Connecticut Yankees," as presented back in '27 with Bill Gaxton in the male lead. Gaxton, who has just completed 13 weeks with Victor Moore on the Sunday night Edgar Bergen show, will also have the lead in the radio version of "Yankee." Musical is also being revived this season on Broadway, though in a new modern version, currently playing at the Martin Beck with Dick Yoran and Vivienne Segal in the leads.

Ballantine show will be called "Broadway Show Time" and will be spotted on 42 CBS radio stations on the eastern seaboard. Other CBS outlets are not available because of the "Blondie" show repeat at that hour. Johnny Merges, of the "What's Up?" musical, has been picked for roles in the first two revivals. The show replaces Guy Lombardo and Ogden Nash in the 10:20-11 o'clock spot.

## TOM WEATHERLY GOES FROM LEGIT TO RADIO

Tom Weatherly, the legit press agent and co-producer with Dwight Wiman of several Broadway productions, is leaving the legit field to enter radio work. Weatherly, who recently formed a partnership with Wiman and Jack Del Boca to produce the ill-fated "Murder Without Crime" at the Cort, N. Y., is joining the radio department of the Walter Thompson agency on Jan. 1.

Weatherly will probably either write or produce radio shows.

## SOME SEE PUBLIC INTEREST BOOP

By GEORGE ROSEN

Question as to what will happen after the war is being asked by some, which during the past year achieved record levels in popularity both on sustaining and commercial time, on all networks, is causing considerable speculation—particularly among agency men with an eye toward long-range buying.

Indicative of the importance attached to the news-analysis programs during the fever pitch war months of 1943 is the percentage of time consumption as disclosed in figures prepared by CBS and Mutual. Average weekly news time on the Columbia week during the past year totaled 172.3%, while the NBC weekly allotment has averaged 13 hours and 15 minutes on commercial time and six hours on sustaining, for a total of 19 hours, 15 minutes. With the overall Mutual net time totaling 119 hours weekly, the news program break down to an approximate 16%.

Comparable percentages apply to the NBC and Blue webs as well.

Pro and Con on Future

In some quarters it's considered likely that while such men as H. V. Kaltenborn, Raymond Grant Heister, Lowell Thomas, Gabriel Steiner, William Shirer, Edward Murrow, Quentin Reynolds and other topnotchers will retain their popularity in the post-war era, they nevertheless will face a sloughing off of interest in the average news broadcast, with many of them yanked off the air and thus making way for other type programs. On the other hand it's argued by others that there will be no abatement in interest for possibly 10 years hence, because of the vital changes that will sweep the globe during the long period of reconstruction. The return of millions of our boys from the war who will be personally acquainted with the foreign countries that, prior to the conflict, were only names in the news, is also cited as a factor in stimulating interest in post-war radio news.

Just what type of program will be the result.

(Continued on page 38)

## Ford Drops 1/2-Hour Show Idea for 2 15-Minute Programs, Sat. and Sun.

### Fleming Moscow-Bound

James Fleming, CBS correspondent in Cairo, is currently on his way to Moscow, where he will represent the network.

He was formerly a commercial announcer on CBS programs.

## NBC 13-WK. SHOW TO HELP FIGHT DELINQUENCY

New weekly show to help fight juvenile delinquency is slated to start on NBC, Jan. 15 (1:30-2 p. m.) titled 'Here's to Youth.' Show, sketched for 13 weeks, will use dramatizations of documentary material, involving incidents in family and community life today. Ten National voluntary youth organizations are cooperating to bring about an effective approach to the problems of youth living under the stress of war. Helen Hayes is slated to do the first show.

Agencies which are cooperating and co-sponsoring the program are American Junior Red Cross, Boys Clubs of America, Boy Scouts of America, Camp Fire Girls, Girl Scouts, Jewish Welfare Board, National Catholic Welfare Conference, National Council of YMCA, National Federation of Settlements, and the YWCA.

Programs will include: 'Young America in Crisis,' 'Danger, Mother's Workin',' 'Trailin' Town's Children,' 'Dad's in the Army,' 'Brides of War,' 'Boombtown,' 'Our Nomad Families,' 'Till the Boys Come Home,' 'Help Wanted,' 'Latch Key Children,' 'The Melting Pot Bolts,' 'Johnny Comes Home,' and 'Strength for America.'

Ford Motor Co., which originally made a deal of sponsoring a half-hour Sunday evening concert program, in addition to the five-minute week-end radio program, is now retaining the same spot on the Blue now occupied by news commentator, Earl Godwin.

The quarter-hour Saturday show will be called 'Early American Folk Music' and will comprise a band made up of Ford employees, and other company-employed talent. Sunday night program, titled 'The Village Choir,' will probably have a lineup of sons and daughters of Ford workers.

J. Walter Thompson is the agency, having recently taken over the Ford account from the Maxon agency.

## Blue Packages Femme 'Info'

'Women's Council,' a combination of 'Information' and 'The High Road Round Table' and Town Hall Meeting of the Air' but with a distinct twist in the approach, will be the Blue network as a half-hour package. Show has been recorded and is being distributed to prospective sponsors.

Stanza takes the form of a panel of experts, all females, who answer questions dealing with problems particularly interesting to women, submitted by the listening audience. Questions will be answered in the discussion type rather than the factual sessions utilized by 'Info Please.' Janet Carson, of the New Yorker mag, will padman the program with Dorothy Kilgallen, Broadway columnist; C. Mildred Thompson, dean of Vassar; Dr. Margaret Mead, noted anthropologist and sociologist; and Helen Kellan, former South Line's opponent for Congress in the last election, making up the panel of experts.

## Par May Sponsor Film Portion of 'Breakfast Club' (Chi) on Blue

Chicago, Dec. 21. Paramount Pictures is playing around with the idea of taking over the 'unapportioned' portion of the 'Breakfast Club' (8-8:58 a. m.) as a prelude to building a picture around the 11-year-old radio show, Robert Gilliam, who wrote the show, is in Chicago last week huddling with Don McNeill, m. of the show and Blue Network officials on the idea.

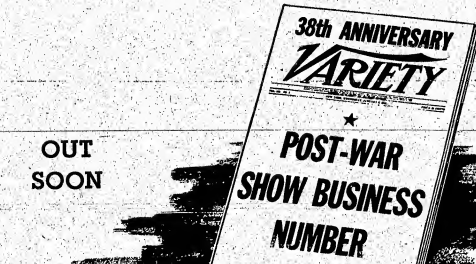
Fenton Lee and McNeill have authored a film script titled 'Breakfast Club' and a score by Lee Armentrout, which Gilliam sent to the Coast as a possible vehicle for filming the radio show. The 9:30-9 p. m. show is sponsored by Swift and Kellogg in 15-minute chunks.

## 'WARCASTS' STEP UP PLANT PRODUCTION

Washington, Dec. 21. New stunt, 'Warcasts,' is reported highly successful by the War Industrial Incentive Division in stepping up production in factories, shipyards and naval shore establishments. 'Warcasts' are being handled in conjunction with radio station, the networks, Mutual, and the country newspapers throughout the country. Stunt consists of two to four minute war news bulletins, plus a brief message from the Navy, which go out over the public address systems of the plants.

Copy is prepared by broadcast stations and newspapers and is piped to the plants via leased wire.

## You're Best Salesman In All Markets— Present and Future

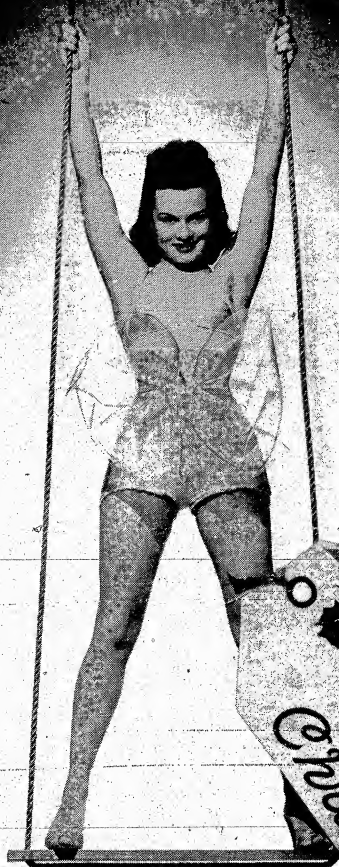


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# *In Kansas City the Swing is to WHB*



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*BUT* believe us, we down here in Maine who operate Maine's famed WGAN know that there's just one ingredient that makes our station the best-dialed in this section. It's you boys and girls of the stage, screen and radio! You're the most important ingredient in our Pie, and that's why we, of all Radio Stations in Maine, have been advertising how important you stars are to our success—and the success of our advertisers as well. We've cheered you C. B. S. stars in 2 column spreads, in nine daily, evening and Sunday newspapers with virtually statewide coverage—for 28 consecutive days. Combined with this we ran over 200 radio announcements as well as a mammoth poster campaign featuring C. B. S. stars.

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**STATION WGAN PORTLAND**  
MAINE



**National Sales Representatives: PAUL H. RAYMER COMPANY**



# Fly's Testimony Winds Up Hearing On White-Wheeler Bill; Senate to Get Revised Measure Some Time in Jan.

Washington, Dec. 21. White-Wheeler bill hearings ended here last week, and the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee undertook the rewriting of the bill following windup testimony by FCC chairman James L. Fly in which he asserted that the Supreme Court network decision did not give the FCC control over programs.

Fly charged that NAB, NBC and CBS chose to misconstrue the Supreme Court ruling in the hope that the two big networks could recapture the monopoly they had previously enjoyed.

Fly was on the stand Wednesday (15) and Thursday in sessions which covered a good deal of territory. Other highlights of the day:

1. Senator Burton K. Wheeler, co-author of the bill, indicated he favored a provision which would require government departments and agencies to go before FCC in order to obtain broadcast wave bands.

2. Fly answered charges by Joseph Pierson, general manager of Press Wireless, Inc., that FCC had not treated the service fairly in authorizing new overseas circuits for Press

Wireless, by asserting that FCC had acted under instructions from the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Board of War Communications.

3. Fly suggested two sections to the White-Wheeler bill. One would require Commission consent for the transfer of 20% or more of the stock of a corporate licensee, whether or not the 80% represents control. The other would permit FCC to institute fines of up to \$500 a day for broadcast station violations as a lesser penalty than revocation of licenses.

4. There was considerable discussion of programs, and Wheeler said a provision might be written into the new bill which would require licensees to carry a certain proportion of sustaining time given over to educational and similar programs.

## To Speed Revision

5. Day after the hearings, Wheeler announced that the bill will be rewritten in time to be submitted to the Senate some time in January. The problem that confronts us, he said, is to work out legislation which will guarantee, as far as possible, the right of both sides on important controversies to be heard. "It is

contended that FCC has too much control, and that this creates fear in the minds of broadcasters that they must do what the bureaucrats like or lose their licenses. I want to take away any fear of revocation. On the other hand, there will have to be some standards set up so that a broadcasting chain or station cannot take a public-be-damned attitude, only sending out its own views."

Fly's statement on the Supreme Court was built around an explanation of the phrase "the composition of the radio" which was used by every people to fear that FCC can control programs.

On Jan. 10 of this year, he said, "the Supreme Court upheld the Commission's chain-broadcasting regulations." The big networks were much concerned. This was not surprising because on that day the monopolistic shackles which RCA and CBS had imposed upon the radio broadcast industry were finally broken. Now that the highest court has ruled that there is a danger that they could hope to recapture the monopoly they had previously enjoyed, they are now pressing upon Congress to amend the law. It must have been obvious to them that they would be sure to get an emergency legislative campaign would be necessary. And this campaign had to be planned on a long range. It would not do to come before this committee, crying 'We want our jobs back.'"

Fly went on to argue that Neville Martin called the NAB board to a special meeting on August 2 and that "finally the slogan for the campaign was chosen." Fly said this was by "raising from their control the words 'the composition of that traffic in the radio' decision."

"It was much better," said Fly, "to talk in terms of abridgement of free speech than in terms of restoration of monopoly. Here also was a cause which the great could logically be expected to champion. The new slogan worked fine. Almost immediately there was a flood of editorial making reference to the composition of that traffic."

Fly continued that the issue could mean what NAB and the industry said it did because Section 325 of the Communications Act specifically forbids FCC radio control. Secondly, he argued, it could not mean that because the Supreme Court did not have the issue of program control before it and never hands down rulings on matters not before it.

Quoting the disputed paragraph in the ruling, Fly said:

"First the court says the Commission is not simply a traffic officer policing the wave lengths to prevent collisions from interfering with other. Obviously the traffic there referred to is the stations themselves and the millions of radio stations. The court goes on to say that the Commission does something more than supervising the traffic. Again, the traffic refers to the stations. Then follows the sentence which the two big networks and their associate NAB choose to misconstrue: 'It puts upon the Commission the burden of determining the composition of the traffic.' The traffic is the composition of the electronic air, is the stations that are on the air."

Interpreting Public Interest

The court words, the court is saying that far from simply policing the existing traffic, the Commission (Continued on page 46)

## Debate Air News

Continued from page 31

emerge when the added time becomes available through the dropping of many of the current new stanzas is anybody's guess. It's pointed out, but any agency and network forces are possibilities for a new live programming when many of the men from radio currently serving overseas return with fresh ideas and a new concept of things in general.

These same spokesmen deplore the fact that the war years have been marked by an almost total absence of original programming by stations which, they point out, lacking any incentive, have become accustomed to leeching life from newscasts. Result is that some stations around the country have as many as three and four of the contemporary programs in a row. The amazing part of it is that one of the stronger stations with four successive news programs has found that each one has a wider listener interest than the one which just preceded it.

# Letting His Public Know

John B. Hughes, winding up his new commentary series for ABC's Saturday night (18) over of radio, publicly declared that he was going off the air because his sponsors objected to his views. Hughes maintained that his eight years of uninterrupted broadcasts were terminating because of "business" matters and that he expected to return to the air at a later date.

The commentator declared that published reports that he and Ainslie could see eye for eye on the subject of "business" matters and that his sponsors ever attempt to dictate editorial policy to him and that the relationship was a thoroughly happy one throughout. The program was taken over to a new series of long series of broadcasts and suggested that more than one "objective fascist" was glad he was winding up on the air.

# From the Production Centres

Continued from page 32

sponsors 'Songs of a Dreamer', 15-minute musical starting on the Blue Network Jan. 8. Show will feature Fred Glen and Gene Baker. ...Cliff Johnson, WBMB-CBS comedian, will be featured into the Army's theater. Curt Massey plans a vacation on the west coast after the first of the year. While there he will talk over several picture offers. ...Rikki Kaye, local radio writer, has written an article on "Cover in Radiovision for a national mag." ...Blue Jacket Carroll Huxley, former arranger for Andre Kostelanetz, has been appointed director of the Great Lakes orchestra heard on the Blue Network 'Meet the Navy' show. ...Ben Ferber, asst. head of the WBMB-CBS press department, rumored engaged to a Chicago radio producer. ...Arthur J. Gross, production manager for the NBC central division, has been named as the new head of the ABC's radio division. Mitchell on WGN, renewed for 13 weeks. General Clegg is the sponsor. ...NBC and the Blue Network are throwing a combined Christmas party Dec. 23. This is the first event of its kind. ...Justin Waller, NBC central division public service director, is the party chairman. Toys for the kids of employees and a vaudeville show will be the highlights of the affair. ...Rose Mary Kelly, radio actress, planning a vacation trip to the west coast. ...Hello Sweetheart, starring Nancy Martin, booked in of the Blue Network Dec. 18. ...Bud Buckley, CBS salesman, all spent out moving from the country to a apartment.

Quinn Ryan, former WGN exec, moving to New York the first of Jan. Ryan plans to reenter radio there. ...Meet the Masses, with Harold I. Jaffe, asst. head of WBBM, celebrated its eighth year on the air last week. ...Cast of the National Barn Dance, including Lulu Belle and Scotty Pat, returned, the Hoosier Hotshots, due back from Hollywood this week. Show will be resumed from the Eighth St. Theatre Christmas Day. ...MacGregor, WGN production exec, has resigned, effective Jan. 1. No successor named as yet. ...Tyler Davis, newly-appointed radio director of J. J. Walter Thompson, has been back from New York ready to take over. ...Spirit of Christmas, Christmas Eve show featuring orchestra, a choral group and a dramatization of 'Silent Night, Holy Night,' will be aired over WGN-Mutual. Sponsor is Garrett & Co., wine makers. Rudolph & Ryan handling.

'Abe's Fishbun's Story', new Mutual network show, is directed by Alan M. Fishbun and not 'Helen Fishbun', as previously reported. The Chit writer-director also is producing the 'Coronet Little Lady' and has scripted a sustainer, 'Escape', due for an NBC debut Monday (27).

## PEABODY SCRUTINY FOR WCKY AIRERS

Cincinnati, Dec. 21.

Three WCKY programs finished among the first five in findings of the Cincinnati committee for the George Foster Peabody radio awards. Committee, made up of leading professional figures in the territory, was headed by John F. Locke, community relations director of the Board of Education.

WCKY shows honored were 'Let Freedom Ring,' 'This Is Mine' and 'This is Mine.' The radio Thelma's presentation of Fulton Lewis, Jr., named best reporter of the news. Also won honors in the 'This is Mine' category.

'Freedom,' written, produced and directed by Robert Fleming, WCKY program director, a half-hour show heard once a week dramatized war and home front incidents to aid the Red Cross blood plasma drive. Time was donated to the Red Cross by Stokes Industries, of Covington, This is Mine, a Saturday night week for child and adult education, was packaged by Jerry Belcher, station's public events director.

Programs selected will be judged on a statewide basis at Columbus with survivors entered in a final week competition conducted by the Univ. of Ge. Journalism school.

## Submit Robinson As

M.C. for New Show

A half-hour variety show with Edward G. Robinson as emcee, featuring Bobby Ambruster's orchestra was submitted to National Keltovision by Gene-Cornell ad agency. Show would also include a 12-minute spot tied up with the war effort.

## Hough on Blue Bd.

Harold Hough, KGKO, Fort Worth-Dallas, has been named a director of the Blue Network, according to an announcement by Edward G. Robinson, chairman of the board. Hough is chairman of the network's planning and advisory committee. Hough's appointment marks the first time in radio that a station rep, not a network stockholder, has been named a network director and is in line with policy announced by Noble at Chit meeting of Blue affiliates last month.

# Kaltenborn, Back From So. Pacific Tour, Sez We Won't Lick Japs Till '46

H. V. Kaltenborn, back in New York from his U.S. Pacific tour, spoke before a luncheon gathering of radio execs and newsmen at the Waldorf-Astoria, New York (20).

The commentator predicted that the conflict would be over before 1946. So far-fung is the Pacific battle line, Kaltenborn said, that it will have to be men and machines, and more men and more machines, before the country can be thinking in terms of victory.

NBC execs present included Niles Trammell, David Saroff, Clio Morgan, Clarence Messer and William Brooks.

# The TEX RANGERS now

Selling COLD TABLETS ON KOMO SEATTLE

also selling many other products on many other stations. George E. Holley TEXAS RANGERS LIBRARY, 2015 PUDWICK • KANSAS CITY, MO.

# HOW BUY 7 NEWS PERIODS FOR THE PRICE OF ONE



Would you, sir, like to maybe make one dollar equal seven? Or eight, perhaps? Or maybe more? Would you like to be able to write a letter like the one written to us the other day by a famous lady time-buyer?

Listen. "On November 8, as part of a national radio campaign, we started to offer a free sample of Menhutton on WOR's 7 A.M. news. So far, we are pleased to inform you, WOR HAS PULLED APPROXIMATELY SEVEN TIMES BETTER THAN THE NEXT HIGHEST RANKING STATION!"

Remarkable? NOT when you consider that WOR is the favorite newscast of most of the people all of the time.\* NOT when you remember that WOR jabs its potent news-programs into an area that includes 10 wealthy cities of over 100,000 population each.

Can you buy that particular 7 A.M. news-program? Sorry, it's sponsored. But between 10:00 and 10:45 A.M.—and between those audience-attractions, Alfred McCann and Bessie Bently—there's another powerful WOR newscast (with Henry Gladstone) which is available. We urge you to put your bid in early.

\* Based on the WGN-Crescent continuing study of radio listening in Greater New York.

That power-full station

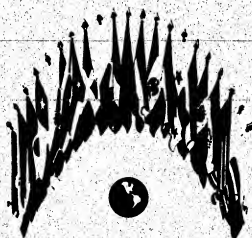
**WOR**

1440 Broadway, New York



On December 13, 1943, in the Patio of the Pan American Union, Washington, D.C., its director, Dr. Leo S. Rowe, in the presence of members of the Diplomatic Corps, The United States Congress, Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, made a formal presentation of this scroll on behalf of the Ambassadors of all Twenty Latin-American Republics to

# ENRIC MADRIGUERA



In recognition of pioneer efforts over the past decade and a half in popularizing Latin American music in the United States... advancing Pan Americanism through this universal language... we, the undersigned Ambassadors and Ministers of North, South and Central American Republics, do elect Sr. Enric Madriguera the "Musical Ambassador of the Americas".

<i>T. Armin</i>	ARGENTINA	<i>Alant</i>	HAITI
<i>Alfonso</i>	BOLIVIA	<i>Alfonso</i>	HONDURAS
<i>Alfonso</i>	BRAZIL	<i>Alfonso</i>	MEXICO
<i>Alfonso</i>	CHILE	<i>Alfonso</i>	NICARAGUA
<i>Alfonso</i>	COLOMBIA	<i>Alfonso</i>	PANAMA
<i>Alfonso</i>	COSTA RICA	<i>Alfonso</i>	PARAGUAY
<i>Alfonso</i>	CUBA	<i>Alfonso</i>	PERU
<i>Alfonso</i>	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	<i>Alfonso</i>	URUGUAY
<i>Alfonso</i>	ECUADOR	<i>Alfonso</i>	VENEZUELA
<i>Alfonso</i>	GUATEMALA		

Many thanks to your Excellencies, the Ambassadors of all our Latin-American Neighbors, for the great honor bestowed through your appointment of me as "Musical Ambassador of the Americas."

Yours for Hemisphere Solidarity,

*Enric Madriguera*



# TIME E. T.s COMING BACK

## MORE SPONSORS MULL WAXINGS

With Lever Bros. already setting up plans to buy supplementary time on stations throughout the south for a half-hour transcribed show of its Thursday night NBC Bob Burns program, and the sponsors of two other nighttime programs muting a similar extension of their shows to offset network facilities on the fringes, indications point to big-time recorded shows starting to creep back. In some quarters it's regarded as fairly certain that they'll regain their former hold during 1944.

In addition to Lever Bros., Anacin, sponsors of the CBS Wednesday night 'Easy Aces' show, and Kolynos, sponsors of the CBS 'Mr. Keen' Thursday night program, are also considering the use of the supplementary facilities via other networks for the half-hour transcribed shows. Anacin for a while was also dicker for Canadian time for the 'Easy Aces' program, but the idea was recently abandoned due to excessive costs.

At the present time the Jack Benny show is the only major nighttime program that's transcribed and aired on another network. Comedy show is carried on the Don Lee Coast circuit, since Benny wants a nighttime Coast audience.

Sponsors dropped the supplementary shows following the Petrillo recording ban and the inauguration of the full network discount, which made it considerably cheaper to utilize the full coast-to-coast facilities of a web. P & G and General Mills, in particular, favored the transcription idea to enjoy the benefits of strong stations on other network-time, although the recording ban had little effect on the P & G daytime serial non-musical format.

Just how successful the supplementary show programming will work out depends on the ability of the sponsors and agencies to line up the facilities of top stations whose time, since the dropping of the transcription repeats, has in virtually all cases been bought up.

Lever Bros. move to reach a larger audience in the South ties in with its Lifebuoy Soap sales pitch with stress on the perspiration angle, which, obviously, commands but little wintertime attention up north.

## 'War Dept. Report' Available to Radio For Own Sponsorship

Washington, Dec. 21. 'War Department Report,' new 45-minute official Army film to be released for showings to war workers Dec. 24, will also be available for radio stations. NAB announces in a special bulletin to its members.

Radio stations may obtain prints for studio showings or as stations sponsored programs before civic clubs or other local groups of their own choosing, said NAB. This 45-minute film was previewed in Washington recently and it will grip and hold any size audience that your station is able to assemble, in studio, theatre or civic auditorium. Available in both 16 and 35 mm. sound films.

Bookings must be arranged through Capt. Monroe Greenhalgh, Industrial Services Division, Army Bureau of Public Relations, in Washington. Greenhalgh is a former film industry p.a. who served with WPB before going into the Army.

## Educator's 'G-Man' Play Gets Tex. Airing

San Antonio, Dec. 21. Original playlet, 'Adventures of a G-Man,' authored by Dr. Leslie C. Froten, will be featured on the Texas School of the Air over the Texas Quality Network on Wednesday (23). Dr. Froten is supervisor of radio and visual education in the state department of education.

He is a well-known Texas author and writer of juvenile books.

## WFIL Rounds Up Yule Cheer for GI Boys But Dinners Go A-Beggin'

Philadelphia, Dec. 21. Philly lived up to its 'brotherly love' rep in sensational style this week. WFIL plugged Xmas spirit by asking citizens to entertain servicemen in town over the holidays at Christmas dinners and got such a tremendous response that the service organizations cooperating ran out of G. I. guys.

Ted Oberfelder, WFIL promotion director, who turned the invitations over to Army and Navy public relations officers, was told that hungry

## Blayne Butcher Goes To Newell Emmett

Blayne Butcher, who resigned recently from the radio department of the Ward Wheeler agency, has joined the radio department of the Newell Emmett agency.

Butcher will probably take over the new 'Dumpling' show, which bows in on the Blue network for Ken-Tone on Jan. 5, and will also supervise 'Can You Top This' Monday night program on WOR.

Servicemen had to be 'rationed' because of scarcity so more than 100 'thank-you-but-regret-to-inform-no Xmas-guests available' were sent out to warm-hearted Philly families.

## Probe Yanking of 'RCAF Smiles' Air Show Off CBC Net Due to AFM Nix

Ottawa, Dec. 21. Royal Canadian Air Force headquarters here will hold an 'inquiry' into the withdrawal of the air force radio show, 'RCAF Smiles,' from a Canadian Broadcasting Corp. western network on order of the American Federation of Musicians. With cast including fliers from Australia, England, New Zealand and Canada, show had teed off on several western Canada CBC outlets before. RCAF said, the AFM 'looked on it with great disfavor.'

RCAF reports 'Smiles' airing was

designed for personnel entertainment and cast had not charged for work.

Union agreed airmen could play musical instruments but 'would not be allowed to do so on a radio program unless all held memberships in the Canadian affiliate of the AFM.'

Some headaches came up more than a year ago when AFM ordered RCAF Central Band off the air. At that time, Air Minister C. G. Power issued order that RCAF musicians could play 'where and when' they wanted.

# NON look at W M P S

C. E. HOOPER • Memphis Audience Measurements • Oct.-Nov. 1943

	WMFS	Station 'C'	Station 'D'
MIDWINTER PARTY 8:00-10:00 P. M.	35.8	26.5	27.0
AFTERNOON PARTY 1:30-3:30 P. M.	25.8	37.6	18.5
EVENING PARTY 7:00-9:00 P. M.	16.0	39.4	22.1

Blue and Mutual  
Station  
for  
Memphis

WMFS is under the  
same management as  
WCPD, Cincinnati, Ohio  
and WNOX, Knoxville, Tenn.

# W M P S

THE MEMPHIS NEWS STATION

Affiliated with  
THE MEMPHIS PRESS-SCIMITAR  
REPRESENTED BY SPOT SALES





## Rewrite White-Wheeler Bill

Continued from page 38

shall, by licensing choice the stations which shall operate on the other highways. To put it another way, the traffic officer simply directs and controls the traffic which comes along on the highway, but the licensing authority determines what they shall compose the traffic, or what cars shall be permitted upon the highways.

The court stresses that public interest involves something more than technological considerations in the case of choosing a licensee, but at no point either before or after the quoted paragraph is there any reversal of programs or program control. Under Section 326 of the Act, the Commission is specifically denied the power to tell a radio station what it shall or shall not broadcast. The only power which the Commission does have is the power to review the overall service of a station, to determine whether it is operating in accordance with public interest, convenience and necessity.

In short, the cry of the networks at these hearings has been for Congress to "repeat the Supreme Court decision." I have shown you that the decision has nothing to do with programs and nothing to overturn the court's decision would have no effect so far as programs are concerned. It comes down to this:

The only result that would follow from a repeal of the Supreme Court decision would be the restoration of the monopoly that the big networks formerly enjoyed. This monopoly must not be restored, particularly when we are on the threshold of electronic and FM which would make that monopoly far more powerful than it ever has been in the past.

At another stage in the hearings, Sen. Ernest W. McFarland, Arizona Democrat, asked Fyfe: "I take it you do not believe the broadcasting companies present good programs as a whole, and from what I gather from your testimony I assume your remedy would be to make it possible for a greater variety of programs?"

"I am not asking for any control there," replied Fyfe. "I do not want to be understood as suggesting that you authorize the Commission to do anything about it, or to adopt any regulations on the subject. It is conceivable that Congress itself could

feel it is equipped to do something about it."

"But I think these radio gentlemen have got industrial selfishness, ambition and about complete freedom, and so on. They have had complete freedom to go in and build up this program structure through the years, and you can take the morning paper and find out yourself the result of all that freedom."

"Now, if Congress can devise a way to take the industrial selfishness and responsibility there in terms of the law itself, rather than in terms of having an agency review the program, from hour to hour, it might well produce some good results."

### Free Enterprise

"What they are talking about," commented Wheeler, "is that they want to have free enterprise to send out over the air anything that they themselves determine as to what the public wants and what is in the interest of the public. They want to put up their own standards. I do not want to see the Government have a monopoly and say that only certain things can be sent over the air, nor do I want some industry, on the theory that they must have free enterprise, to have a monopoly, nor to have a small group of companies say what is in the best interest of the public of the United States and give them a monopoly on ideas in this country."

In response to another question, Fyfe said that the various educational and scientific programs have been either deleted or cutted around in terms of the quantity of time and the desirability of the time accorded them." He said during the week of Dec. 17 during the best listening hours which are from 7 to 11 in the evenings, NBC gave one hour and 45 minutes of sustaining programs as against 28 hours and 15 minutes of commercial programs. For the same time, he continued, CBS gave two hours and 15 minutes of sustaining time as against 25 hours and 45 minutes of commercial time.

"The way public educational programs could be protected, without leaving it to the Commission," said Wheeler, "would be for us to write into the law that when a radio license was granted, they would have to devote some time in return for getting a license, which is an extremely valuable thing, because the minute that you get one of these wavelengths you can get an extremely valuable thing that may be worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. The way that can be done is this: to write into the law a provision that, when you grant a license to a station, that station should be required, and that network should be required, to devote a certain amount of its time to educational programs or to the public service."

Washington.—WMAI, Blue station here has added two announcements to the staff. They are Robert Tree West, formerly with WHOM, New York; and Allen Hampton, ex-chief announcer for WLSL, Roanoke.

## 'Phone Rehearsal

Patsy Campbell, flu victim, did her rehearsing via telephone last Saturday (18). For her scheduled WBKN, N. Y., Sunday appearance, a program for German-American children sponsored by the Civilian Defense Volunteer Office. Miss Campbell's reading and timing of "The Night Before Christmas" and the famous "N. Y. editorial, 'To There's a Santa Claus'" was checked by phone from her home with the rest of the cast standing by for the studio.

The girls surrendered in time for the actress to appear Sunday night (19) and the program went off on schedule.

## Forecasts Tele Delay in Aussie

Sydney, Dec. 21.

Sir Ernest Fife, chairman of Integrated Wireless and also active in commercial radio, on his recent return from the United States prophesied that television was a certainty for Australia with the outbreak of peace, but opined widespread viewing could not be expected within five years. He also said that commercial tele operators, he said, would be high cost operators.

The statistic according to Sir Ernest, probably would be worked out in England and the U. S. with Australia still as a beneficiary. He also predicted that technical problems which now prevent long range radio broadcasts also would be solved.

## AUSIE BUILDS UP ITS RADIO SERVICE

Sydney, Dec. 21.

The Australian Broadcasting Commission, in association with United States authorities, is going ahead with erection of additional equipment to existing radio stations, construction of one new station in the Southwest Pacific command area. New stations will be built, including acceptance by troops in advance fighting zones.

Also planned are plenty of relay programs from the U. S. to give fighting men an abundance of news and entertainment from home.

## WCAU's Space-Grabbing In School, College Mays

Philadelphia, Dec. 21.

WCAU is tapping a hitherto untapped source of publicity—the school and college magazines. Under the aegis of Emma Mae Roberts, station promoter, it has a weekly news letter column by Katharine Clark, WCAU's news commentator, is sent and printed in more than 50 school publications.

The institutions, include swank private schools, private public and parochial. Facilities have notified the station that the newsletter, in addition to school news, sports, and other news, would be utilized in classrooms for current events studies.

## Follow-Up Comment

Continued from page 38

faking the form of a whodunit and with a tough managing editor and a staff of substantial writers and editors. It's all stereotype and a true juvenile, but acceptable light entertainment for that hour.

Albert Spaulding, whose autobiography, "Fame and Follow," was discussed on *Let Me and Booky*, was CBS' last emphasis that was not too mechanical methods, the phonograph and radio, immediately came up as reasons for the growth of musical cinema from adolescence to maturity during the past 25 years. The "vocalists" pointed out that the films have had sympathetic scores for years, and that through motion pictures, good music has been "burst" upon millions of Americans, and "many of them, not even knowing it, have been immediately converted."

Radio, Spaulding continued, "is doing for music what printing did for literature."

Philip Morris Flynnhouse on Friday (17) night presented Brian Donlevy in a vivid dramatization of the saga of Water Island. Donlevy played the part of the island's Marlon comman-

## Inside Stuff—Radio

With 73 out of 210 former staff members of the four CHL networks in the armed forces, NBC leads all the others. WGN-Mutual is second with 58, CBS 38 and the Blue Network 18. Among the brass hats that are in service: Lt. Col. Buck Weaver, former head of the CBS news room, now in Italy; Lt. Commander Carl Meyers, former chief engineer of WGN; Lt. Clinton Simpson, former CBS news manager, now in the Navy; Lt. Blay and Lt. Bob Elson, former WGN sportscaster, now in the Navy; Capt. George Woods, former NBC director, is directing the air force version of the Wings; Lt. Col. William J. Montgomery Air Force band. Pyl, Edward S. King, former NBC director, is producing the air shows for the Army.

CBS is making available to all its affiliates transmissions of the Dec. 3 broadcast by Edward Murrow, its correspondent in London, which was shorthanded here almost immediately after he alighted from the bomber which crashed in the desert in the devastating night of the preceding night, and which took the lives of three other correspondents. Several of the stations which failed to pick up the broadcast have since put in a bid for the transcription, resulting in CBS's move to give widespread distribution.

Murrow's film has also been incorporated by CBS into an attractive brochure.

Robert St. John, NBC's roving foreign correspondent who returned to New York City, has been handling with network execs for contract renewal discussions. Reported new offer will set St. John on one weekly news report program at an estimated \$10,000 per broadcast.

With lucrative field-on lecture platforms and outside writing ventures facing the commentator he is said to be averse to signing up for too many live appearances requiring his presence in New York. NBC is set for winter of ceremonies duties on NBC's special overseas Christmas broadcast and president will continue to appear on network shows pending completion of contract negotiations.

Something like the Lou Costello incident, when the comedian went on the air following news of the tragic drowning of his one-year-old son, has been repeated in the case of radio actor Bob Grey.

The Navy Department notified him several days ago that his son, Warren, 21-year-old ensign, first pilot on a PBV plane, was reported missing following a sub patrol mission over the Atlantic. A day later Grey closed his way through NBC's morning station, "Mirth and Madness."

The rising popularity of hillbilly music on the radio is the subject of a forthcoming article written for *Statepost*. Piece dealt particularly with the "Grand Old Opry" show, which this year went full program on NBC which several years ago was a half-hour program heard on the radio.

The hillbilly program originates from Nashville and has a rating of 12.

"Other hillbilly network programs also having good ratings are the NBC *Barn Dance* (14), and the Colgate Judy Canova program on CBS (11.5).

Mutual's "This Is Fort Dix," emceed by Tom Slater, celebrated its fourth anniversary Sunday (19). George McCoy, who used to conduct the side-walk interviews in front of the Hotel Astor in New York, was heard on a pickup from North Africa, where he runs a similar program for his brothers-in-arms.

QWI was so impressed with Philo's leaflet "Radio War of Fame" program titled "Victory's Bob" that he has decided to make it a permanent feature (Ken Reynolds) that it is recording all the Philo-Variety shows henceforth for shipment to the warfronts.

Blue Network is currently considering adding female musicians to its house orchestra, at present time experimenting with a few girls in the band. If policy is adopted, Blue will be the first net to use females extensively.

der with intensity and intelligence. So, managed to sound convincing. The rest of the cast were equally effective and it all added up to a slick session.

It was fitting that such an episode should receive remembrance at this time, when our armed forces are engaged in the invasion of the Pacific in the Southwest and Middle Pacific.

Saturday's (18) broadcast of "An Englishman Looks at Brooklyn" over NBC was a pair with the previous program in the series produced by Geoffrey Bridson, who also scripted the show in collaboration with Hyde Parkview. About a dozen Brooklynites were brought to the mike to tell their stories to a narrator Burford Hampton. Most impressive, "American" was the president of the Disfranchisement League of Brooklyn, comparing Brooklyn to Brookline, printing 200,000 members, who agreed with the Union League of Brooklyn. "We love people who love Brooklyn."

The show, incidentally, was recorded and played over BBC to English audiences last night. Production went along smoothly with a large audience in for some community as libbing.

Bernadine Flynn, on *Crisco's* newspaper over CBS (14), broadcast Saturday's "Fame and Brooklyn" over NBC was a pair with the previous program in the series produced by Geoffrey Bridson, who also scripted the show in collaboration with Hyde Parkview. About a dozen Brooklynites were brought to the mike to tell their stories to a narrator Burford Hampton. Most impressive, "American" was the president of the Disfranchisement League of Brooklyn, comparing Brooklyn to Brookline, printing 200,000 members, who agreed with the Union League of Brooklyn. "We love people who love Brooklyn."

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*He Preferred Station*

IN AMERICA'S GREATEST INDUSTRIAL MARKET

America's Pioneer Broadcasting Station—First in Detroit Owned and Operated by The Detroit News  
National Representatives  
THE GEORGE P. HOLLINGBERRY COMPANY

## EXPECTING ? ?

der with intensity and intelligence. So, managed to sound convincing. The rest of the cast were equally effective and it all added up to a slick session.

It was fitting that such an episode should receive remembrance at this time, when our armed forces are engaged in the invasion of the Pacific in the Southwest and Middle Pacific.

## MADELINE EE

Babies and Children Delinquent Painlessly

16 Years Network Experience  
**Lexington 2-1100**  
Currently Annabelle on David Harnam

## D'ARTEGA

AND HIS ALL GIRL ORCHESTRA

Now Working in Their First Paramount Picture

Personal Management  
**ERNEST LIEBMAN**  
1464 Broadway, New York  
Direction: William Morris Agency

WE MUST BE GOOD

"We thank you, WMBG, For such good things in forty-three! The best of music and good, clean fun—this program is a real pleasure. The news and quizzes, stories, play-Give pleasure, profit, nights and days! For the best in 43, stay tuned to WMBG."

WMBG Richmond, Va. NBC

# FCC Bares Plan to License Stations For 3 Years; to Stagger Renewals

Washington, Dec. 21.—A plan to step up the license period of standard broadcast stations to three years has been announced by the FCC. This is the maximum allowed under the Communications Act. At present no stations are licensed for more than two years.

In order to spread the work of handling applications for licenses, the FCC has decided to stagger renewals ranging from one year to two years and nine months. The first renewal will be for one full three years. This action, said FCC chairman James L. Fly, is in line with the policy of the FCC and its predecessor, the Federal Radio Commission, to extend the length of the license period and the growth of the radio industry seemed to warrant such extension.

In deciding the matter of extending the normal term of license, the Commission has always had to consider the amount of a license as a public trust and the need of the licensee for all the assurance and stability that seemed consistent with the public trust concept. The Federal Radio Commission was organized, licenses were issued for 60 days, and later, in 1939, FCC first authorized one-year licenses and, in October, 1941, increased the period to two years.

**Expiration Dates**  
Under the stagger plan announced Wednesday, expiration dates, 90% will be as follows:

Nov. 1, 1946, for stations operating on frequencies 680, 690, 700, 710, 720, 730, 740, 750, 760, 770, 780, 790, 800, 810, 820, 830, 840, 850, 860, 870, 880, 890, 900, and 940 k.c.

May 1, 1945, for stations on 990, 1000, 1010, 1020, 1030, 1040, 1050, 1060, 1070, 1080, 1090, 1100, 1120, 1130, 1140, 1160, 1170, 1180, 1190, 1200, 1210, 1220, 1230, 1240, 1250, 1260, 1270, 1280, 1290, 1300, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1340, 1350, 1360, 1370, 1380, 1390, 1400, 1410, 1420, 1430, 1440, 1450, 1460, 1470, 1480, 1490, 1500, 1510, 1520, 1530, 1540, 1550, 1560, 1570, 1580, 1590, 1600, 1610, 1620, 1630, 1640, 1650, 1660, 1670, 1680, 1690, 1700, 1710, 1720, 1730, 1740, 1750, 1760, 1770, 1780, 1790, 1800, 1810, 1820, 1830, 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1890, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940, 1950, 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010, 2020, 2030, 2040, 2050, 2060, 2070, 2080, 2090, 2100, 2110, 2120, 2130, 2140, 2150, 2160, 2170, 2180, 2190, 2200, 2210, 2220, 2230, 2240, 2250, 2260, 2270, 2280, 2290, 2300, 2310, 2320, 2330, 2340, 2350, 2360, 2370, 2380, 2390, 2400, 2410, 2420, 2430, 2440, 2450, 2460, 2470, 2480, 2490, 2500, 2510, 2520, 2530, 2540, 2550, 2560, 2570, 2580, 2590, 2600, 2610, 2620, 2630, 2640, 2650, 2660, 2670, 2680, 2690, 2700, 2710, 2720, 2730, 2740, 2750, 2760, 2770, 2780, 2790, 2800, 2810, 2820, 2830, 2840, 2850, 2860, 2870, 2880, 2890, 2900, 2910, 2920, 2930, 2940, 2950, 2960, 2970, 2980, 2990, 3000, 3010, 3020, 3030, 3040, 3050, 3060, 3070, 3080, 3090, 3100, 3110, 3120, 3130, 3140, 3150, 3160, 3170, 3180, 3190, 3200, 3210, 3220, 3230, 3240, 3250, 3260, 3270, 3280, 3290, 3300, 3310, 3320, 3330, 3340, 3350, 3360, 3370, 3380, 3390, 3400, 3410, 3420, 3430, 3440, 3450, 3460, 3470, 3480, 3490, 3500, 3510, 3520, 3530, 3540, 3550, 3560, 3570, 3580, 3590, 3600, 3610, 3620, 3630, 3640, 3650, 3660, 3670, 3680, 3690, 3700, 3710, 3720, 3730, 3740, 3750, 3760, 3770, 3780, 3790, 3800, 3810, 3820, 3830, 3840, 3850, 3860, 3870, 3880, 3890, 3900, 3910, 3920, 3930, 3940, 3950, 3960, 3970, 3980, 3990, 4000, 4010, 4020, 4030, 4040, 4050, 4060, 4070, 4080, 4090, 4100, 4110, 4120, 4130, 4140, 4150, 4160, 4170, 4180, 4190, 4200, 4210, 4220, 4230, 4240, 4250, 4260, 4270, 4280, 4290, 4300, 4310, 4320, 4330, 4340, 4350, 4360, 4370, 4380, 4390, 4400, 4410, 4420, 4430, 4440, 4450, 4460, 4470, 4480, 4490, 4500, 4510, 4520, 4530, 4540, 4550, 4560, 4570, 4580, 4590, 4600, 4610, 4620, 4630, 4640, 4650, 4660, 4670, 4680, 4690, 4700, 4710, 4720, 4730, 4740, 4750, 4760, 4770, 4780, 4790, 4800, 4810, 4820, 4830, 4840, 4850, 4860, 4870, 4880, 4890, 4900, 4910, 4920, 4930, 4940, 4950, 4960, 4970, 4980, 4990, 5000, 5010, 5020, 5030, 5040, 5050, 5060, 5070, 5080, 5090, 5100, 5110, 5120, 5130, 5140, 5150, 5160, 5170, 5180, 5190, 5200, 5210, 5220, 5230, 5240, 5250, 5260, 5270, 5280, 5290, 5300, 5310, 5320, 5330, 5340, 5350, 5360, 5370, 5380, 5390, 5400, 5410, 5420, 5430, 5440, 5450, 5460, 5470, 5480, 5490, 5500, 5510, 5520, 5530, 5540, 5550, 5560, 5570, 5580, 5590, 5600, 5610, 5620, 5630, 5640, 5650, 5660, 5670, 5680, 5690, 5700, 5710, 5720, 5730, 5740, 5750, 5760, 5770, 5780, 5790, 5800, 5810, 5820, 5830, 5840, 5850, 5860, 5870, 5880, 5890, 5900, 5910, 5920, 5930, 5940, 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17950, 17960, 17970, 17980, 17990, 18000, 18010, 18020, 18030, 18040, 18050, 18060, 18070, 18080, 18090, 18100, 18110, 18120, 18130, 18140, 18150, 18160, 18170, 18180, 18190, 18200, 18210, 18220, 18230, 18240, 18250, 18260, 18270, 18280, 18290, 18300, 18310, 18320, 18330, 18340, 18350, 18360, 18370, 18380, 18390, 18400, 18410, 18420, 18430, 18440, 18450, 18460, 18470, 18480, 18490, 18500, 18510, 18520, 18530, 18540, 18550, 18560, 18570, 18580, 18590, 18600, 18610, 18620, 18630, 18640, 18650, 18660, 18670, 18680, 18690, 18700, 18710, 18720, 18730, 18740, 18750, 18760, 18770, 18780, 18790, 18800, 18810, 18820, 18



# Bands Way Off But Savitt-Sinatra Hot 48 1/2, Philly; Garber 21G, Cleve.

(Estimates for This Week)

D'Artes, Omaha (Orpheum); 3,000; 20-65—With 'Something About Soldiers' (Col). Modest enough \$11,500 or near, but best grosser in ordinary lineup this week.

Charlie Barnet, Pittsburgh (Stanley); 3,800; 30-75—With 'Cross of Loraine' (M-G). Looks like one of Bill deluxer's poorest weeks in years. Barnet will be lucky to get \$12,500, session before Xmas pinning his ears back.

Ted Fio Rito, Providence (Metropolitan); 3,200; 36-59—Transatlantic Tunnel (GB). Fairly good \$8,000 in 3-day week.

Glen Gray, New York (Strand); 2,750; 35-41-10—With 'Northern Pursuit' (WB) and Willie Howard, obnoxious on stage (4th wk). Mild \$30,000 but holds through to New Year's.

Woody Herman, New York (Paramount); 3,600; 38-51-10—With 'Time for Love' (Par) (3d wk) and Marion Hutton, others on stage. Sixth week for Herman and Hutton. Good \$44,000 for final week.

Jan Garber, Cleveland (Palace); 3,700; 34-45—With 'Crime, Shock' (WB) (release). Only bill to hold up in a week of drops, and has enough push in name value to garner satisfactory \$21,000.

Jimmie Lunceford, Boston (RKO Boston); 3,200; 44-49—Plus Mills Brothers, others on stage and Rookies Burns' (RKO). Caught in seasonal slump to draw \$22,000, film not figuring here.

Jan Savitt, Philadelphia (Earle); 2,768; 38-51—With Frank Sinatra, others on stage and Mystery Broadcast (Rep). May break house record here at titled sale, with rousing \$48,500 in prospect despite offish air all over town at other houses. Obviously the big magnet is Sinatra.

Raymond Scott, New York (Capitol); 4,200; 35-41-10—With 'Gee Crazy' (M-G) and Al Dexter, Bea Wain, Jackie Miles on stage (3d wk). Robust \$40,000, but doesn't hold further.

## 'Virtue Remains Triumphant As Gay '90s Tunes Rebound'

By

BEATRICE KAY  
A Music Dept. Feature in the  
38th Anniversary Number.

## VARIETY

(Post-war Shoe Business  
Edition)

## \$995 R.R. TIX STOLEN FROM AYRES, ANDREWS 3

Thief with a lot of nerve stole approximately \$925 worth of railroad tickets from Mitch Ayres and Andrews Sisters last week and within a couple of hours was back in jail at the Santa Fe branch office. Beside the tickets, Ayres lost several hundred dollars in new tailoring from his trunk package at the Majestic, Santa Antonio.

In addition to the loss of the cash represented by the train tickets, group lost the travel privileges which the Andrews Sisters had. By the time the theft was discovered, the Santa Fe had resold them. This left the band and singers in the position of being without transportation. String of postcards covered their entire route back to Hollywood where they're due about the first of the year to make another film for Universal with the Andrews Sisters.

## Bandleader Wins \$500 Verdict in Rebel Suit Against Mass, Daily

Springfield, Mass. Dec. 21.—Abram Goldman, alias Robert Goldman, bandleader who is known professionally as Bobbie Norris, got a \$500 verdict in U. S. district court jury here this week in his \$50,000 libel suit against The Republican Publishing Company. Goldman, a member of local 892, sued because The Daily News called him a "draft dodger" in a column detailing his arrest by the FBI on August 21, 1942.

Goldman, now located in Baltimore, Md., was arrested for failing to notify his Brooklyn draft board that he had moved to West Springfield, where his band was playing at the Wayside. The complaint was filed when it appeared that he had never notified his draft board that he had moved between the time the indictment was issued and the time he was picked up by an FBI agent.

The bandleader, who was shouting at the plant that he had to give up the story made him nervous and caused him such embarrassment at the plant that he had to give up the job. He said that he had visited psychiatrist in an attempt to cure the condition and was in the line in the knee, shaking and sleepless were other results of the story. Goldman is classified 4-F.

## Band Review

**GEORGE OLSEN and Orch (15)**  
Amaze Baltimore, Chicago.  
In point of years, George Olsen has been a bandleader for a long time, but rarely in his career has he had as good a band as the present one. He has completely changed his style to a sweet spot that dishes out well-mixed, sophisticated styling with the being too Mickey-mouse or schmaltzy. Needs dominance, giving the band the smooth, low-key, but the line can also kick the heck out of a tune with equal ease.  
Three violins four sax, four brass and three rhythm complete the instrumentation, and in Marshall Gill and Judith Blat, Olsen has a pair of vocalists that can cut almost anything. Olsen uses excellent judgment in programming also, and he is constantly plugging the tunes heard so much nowadays he mixes in excellently orchestrated numbers like "Silver Wings in the Moonlight," "Don't Overheat Me," "The Drag," "Sweet Kentucky Babe," "You Discover You're in New York" and others. Band is going over so well with the Aragon clientele that the Kanzas firm has signed Olsen for a long return engagement. *Morg.*

Brian Ward, formerly with Hal McIntyre's band, succeeds Judy Williams as vocalist with Harry James.

## Bands at Hotel B.O.'s

(Presented herewith, as a weekly tabulation, is the estimated cover dinner business being done by various New York hotels. Figures after name of hotel give room capacity and cover charge. Larger amount designates weekend and holiday prices. Compilation is based on period from Monday to Saturday.)

Hotel	Covers	Weeks	Week	Week
			ended	ended
			12-20	12-19
Ray Henderson, Billmore (400; \$1-\$50).....	97	1,075	1,745	1,745
Donny Dunham, Lexington (300; 75c-\$1.50).....	1	1,975	1,975	1,975
Sammy Dunham, New Yorker (400; \$1-\$1.50).....	1	1,975	1,975	1,975
Tommy Dunham, Pennsylvania (400; \$1-\$1.50).....	1	1,975	1,975	1,975
Joe Himm, Waldorf (500; \$2).....	11	2,350	33,350	33,350
Count Basie, Lincoln (375; \$1-\$1.50).....	6	1,700	11,000	11,000
Al Lombard, Roosevelt (400; \$1-\$1.50).....	11	2,400	35,250	35,250
Eric Madriguera Commodore (400; \$1-\$1.50).....	5	850	7,025	7,025
Guy Lombard, Essex House (300; \$1-\$1.50).....	4	1,000	4,000	4,000

\*Asterisks indicate a supporting floor show. New Yorker and Billmore have live acts. Waldorf has the Hartmans, Annamary Dickey.

## Los Angeles

Freddie Martin (Ambassador; 900; \$1-\$1.50). It was the week before Christmas and all over town people were flu-bound and covers fast down to \$3,400.

Joe Betechem (Billmore; 400; \$1-\$1.50). None was spared, not even this spot. Call it \$3,500.

## Chicago

Griff Williams (Empire Room, Palmer House; 750; \$3-\$5.50 min.). Christmas slump felt here, but Williams pulled in very good \$2,000.

Jimmy Jay (New Walnut Room, Blackhawk Hotel; 405; \$1.50-\$2.50 min.). One of the best spots who business was good. Around \$3,000 takes.

Johnny Long (Panther Room, Sherman hotel; 950; \$1.50-\$2.50 min.). Long proving big draw here, keeping figure in neighborhood of excellent \$3,000.

Nell Bonduha (Mayfair Room, Blackstone hotel; 400; \$2.50 min.). Renée De Marco helped Bonduha fill room to capacity \$2,000.

Edde Oliver (Marine Room, Edgewater Beach hotel; 1,000; 50c and 75c cover charge, plus \$1.25 min.). Parties aided Oliver in packing in another big \$4,000.

## Location Jobs, Not in Hotels

(Los Angeles)

Teddy Powell (Paladium B, Hollywood, third week). L. A. Examiner Christmas benefit accounted for 3,900 of the week's 25,500 total. Rain, flu and pre-Christmas distractions cut the bill but spot for the young.

Frankie Masters (Trion B, Southgate, third week). Held up well considering the time of year and other impediments and should crack \$2,000.

Big M. (Slappy Maxie's, Hollywood, seventh week). Still running strong and will better 4,500 takes.

(Chicago)

Lou Breeze (Cafe Pares; 650; \$3-\$3.50 min.). Joe E. Lewis and Breeze have 'em putting tables on the dance floor. Capacity \$5,000.

Red Courtney (Blackhawk; 400; \$2-\$3 min.). Business off of holiday days, but Courtney got good \$4,500.

## 1st of 'Back Room' Jazz Concerts This Season Clicks at N.Y. Town Hall

By DON WALSH

Town Hall (N. Y.) went 'back room' again Saturday afternoon (18) when Eddie Condon brought a group of talented jazz musicians in for the first of this season's four \$30 p.m. concerts. In featured spots were the veteran Negro pianist, James P. Johnson, who paid a musical tribute to Pat Waller, and the famous Lee Wiley in three Gerishwin songs.

As at previous concerts under the aegis of Ernie Anderson, jazz loving ad agency exec, informality was the order of the day, with Condon bidding the performers, program, audience and self-off, as well as an audacious, stalling photograph session. The music, announced, was on the staff of a new picture magazine called "Squint."

Master Serg. Joe Bushkin from the 'Winged Victory' orch; musician 3d cl. Max Kaminsky, from the Artie Shaw Navy band; George Wettling, Bob Casey, Lou McGarrity, Pee Wee Russell and Condon opened the program with "Ballin' the Jack," "Love Around the Corner" and "Found a New Baby" done in the same small band style and featuring solos by one and all—except the guitar. McGarrity, Condon and Goodman were the most or less took charge of this phase and it was regretted that he didn't stay around long enough to take a turn in the free-for-all finale which bogged down in spots.

Up next were on hand—Benny Morton, Edmund Hall and Sidney Catlett and no one could find a more devoted way they performed. Catlett's smooth—sprightly—drumming and Morton's powerful "Night and the Moon" and "Corona" Virginia trombone solos were special applause winners. Bushkin also kicked in with some devious and inventive keyboard work backed by string bass and drums.

Bobbie Hackett was not in for a group with shell but perked up a little when backing up Miss Wiley and in kick-off jamming. Johnson, with Wettling drumming, came in after a record which served to warm his nimble fingers up to concert pitch. His Waller melody was done straightaway and the prece-

ding announcement by Condon was handled the same way, with no dramatics.

Miss Wiley dressed up the stage a little bit—the boys were in sports togs for the most part (Kaminsky, Bushkin and the Cafe Society delegation excepted)—and her treatment of "Got a Crush On You," "Someone to Watch" and "Sweet and Lowdown" clicked all the way.

Gate was only fair, but audience was well behaved. One or two yawned and there was no stomping in the aisles or attempts to mount the stage. The concerts are a good take-in for those who know and appreciate good jazz, and can stand the \$3.50-10 but not for those who are listening to it in concert surroundings.







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# WEB Decision on Disc Tiff Due Jan. 6; Victor Not Going Out of Biz

It's expected that the War Labor Board will deliver on Jan. 6 its decision on the recording situation as it applies to Columbia and RCA-Victor, both holders against the AFM's settlement agreement with Victor. For several months the WLB has been digesting testimony gathered at N. Y. hearings presided over by special panel. Since the beginning of the hearings there have been many rumors concerning the final disposition of the tiff. Nothing important has been stirred up. J. W. Murray, head of Victor (replacing Frank Walker), last week dispatched wires to trade papers and others concerned with the case assuring that Victor has no intention of going out of the recording business. This impression had been gathered from a recent statement by Niles Trammell, RCA head, made in Washington, that NBC would discontinue record production rather than give into the AFM's direct payment demands, which Decca had previously accepted. Trammell actually said was that if RCA was faced with being forced to sign with the AFM under the terms Decca drew, it would rather stop pop disc production. In his wife Murray statement, Trammell said that RCA had no intention of disposing of its Victor Record business because of the settlement made by the musicians union. . . . company continues to maintain that to yield of their unwarranted demands would be uneconomic and unusual. . . . RCA has no intention of retiring from record business. . . .

Later in the week Victor released Frank Walker's new status. It had been mistakenly reported that he would leave Victor after the first of the year. However, after Frank Walker with his activities to the supervision of hill-billy and race recordings. He will headquarter in N. Y.

Prior to this communicate Walker had been rumored as stepping into RCA's shoes as head of the record company, although where the pressing facilities would originate for such a measure was never explained. Another rumor of a new disc outfit sprang up last week. It was an outfit, headed by the National Record Co., to begin action soon, whose plans were so complete as to have a production line of 300,000 copies. After investigation this outfit also remained only a rumor, as made as innumerable others that have been circulated recently.

Local 82, Decca, AFM Huddle Omaha of Decca and AFM of both N. Y. local 802 and the national body of the AFM were due to huddle late yesterday (Tuesday) to thrash out a revision of a part of the disc settlement forged recently by Decca and the AFM. Local 82 objected to one of the articles in the original settlement, which stated that where a band records for both pop discs and transcriptions simultaneously the musicians would be paid \$10 extra for every 15-minute transcription made. This sum, of course, is added to the amounts they receive for the pop records made at the same time.

Local 82 objected to this agreement, stating that transcriptions should be paid for at the local's regular rate for transcriptions and not at the AFM-Decca set rate of \$18 for every 15-minute disc made. As a rule a five-hour transcription carries five melodies.

Valencia Ballroom, York Pa., operated by Sadio Tassia, is also reopening a name-band for New Year's night as a test that will guide future policy. Spot hasn't used a name band for some time due to transportation problems both for prospective patrons and bands playing it but has been using Jan Garber's band as the trial horse.

If Garber's date indicates the area of support big traveling bands again, they will be resumed on a weekly basis, or as often as they can be brought. Sunnyside, Potomac, Pa., operated by Ray Hartenstein, is also resuming on New Year's Eve. This is also a week looking. Hartenstein has Bob Allen for the date.

## Reisman's Style Switch

Leo Reisman expects to revise his band's style after the first of the year, shifting from its current swing groove to a more popular RCA-Victor band from sweet and swing. He feels that the band's present course leads it too much to certain types of hotel jobs, parties, etc. He's aiming at theatre work and other bookings played by pop-style outfits.

Reisman is currently at the Waldorf Hotel, N. Y., giving way this week to Xavier Cugat. Later in the for six weeks, then to the N. Y. Paramount for six more months before returning to Metros for a pic.

## Jan. Looks Dull Again for Bands

January period, normally the slowest in the band business, has which for the last two years has been abnormally good, gives promise of returning to form this season. According to bookings sheets at various agencies, there is plenty of time open in that month and immediately thereafter for all but the top names, which, of course, are rarely faced with word-voids. Drop-out cannot be explained by bookers.

New Year's Eve, of course, is hotter this year from a point of sales than ever before. In addition to the usual scramble for music of all styles, a number of long-dormant eastern one-nighters are reopening for the birth of '44, and some are using that night as guide to future operations. Among them are Sunnyside Ballroom, Potomac, Pa., and Valencia B. York, Pa.

## WHITEMAN GOING INTO N. Y. ROXY IN APRIL

Paul Whiteman, musical director of the Blue Network and director of the Philco-Variety Radio Hall of Fame, has been booked for the Roxy to open some time in April. Length of stay not yet set. Whiteman, under present plans, is set to conduct a combination of his own musicians and the house band.

Date was set through the William Morris office.

Columist  
LOUIS SOBOL  
Reminiscences on  
**'A MOUTHFUL OF BAND BILLING'**  
In the  
88th Anniversary Number of  
**VARIETY**  
(Post-War Show Business Edition)

## USO to Build Own Jazz Units

Experiencing little response so far to its plan to send small jazz units up to six pieces overseas to entertain troops, USO-Camp Shows, Inc., is mulling the idea of putting together groups of its own. Teddy Wilson is said to be interested in going over in company with musicians the USO will place around him.

On the domestic front, the USO received word yesterday (Tuesday) that Woody Herman, one of three top four name outfits which had promised a definite series of camp dates, had set aside the period from March 13 to 30 for a tour. This is after Herman's forthcoming film date on the Coast with UA and prior to his opening at Frank Daley's in Newark, N. J.

## Men Too Much Trouble, Switches to Girl Choir

Pittsburgh, Dec. 21. After losing two and three men a week for a year to Uncle Sam and defense plants, Paul Alvies, local bandleader, has had enough. He's dropped his male orchestra and is organizing an all-female troupe. First day of rehearsal, one of the girls dropped out and joined the WAC, but Alvies replaced her immediately and will debut the crew at a downtown ballroom right after the first of the year.

The band will be under the personal management of Ralph Harrison, former dance maestro who has been in the agency and personal management business locally for several years.

# N. Y. Hotels in Tough Spot for Bands; Leaders Veer From Losing Dates

## Lewis Stays in N. Y.

Ted Lewis' orchestra has been held over at the Hurricane Restaurant, N. Y., until March 29 next year. His run by then will have covered five months, which, the six-month run of Duke Ellington and the four weeks filled by Hal McIntyre between the two, means the Hurricane will have used only three bands in a full year.

Lewis is drawing perhaps the highest salary a leader ever was paid on Broadway, for his band and show. He's on a \$5,000 weekly guarantee plus a percentage.

## Krupa Goes With T. Dorsey Band

Gene Krupa joins Tommy Dorsey's orchestra today (Wednesday) at the Paramount theatre, N. Y., a move that had been in the air for almost two weeks, but wasn't definitely settled until last Thursday (16). Krupa played with Dorsey's band Saturday (18), its final evening at the Pennsylvania hotel, N. Y. Drummer will be on special billing at the Par.

Krupa was with Benny Goodman's orchestra at the New Yorker hotel, N. Y., from early in October until last week, when that band was replaced by Sonny Dunham. It had been expected that he would work with Goodman on the latter's trio of theatre weeks before going to the Coast, but it didn't work out that way.

Dorsey had negotiated with Krupa re joining his band while the two were in Hollywood late in the summer. Deal fell through at that time. Par will be Krupa's first theatre date since returning to the shore.

## Cugie's 2 Choices

Xavier Cuga's opening at the Wedgwood room of the Waldorf-Astoria tomorrow night (23) is the start of a six weeks' engagement at the class spot.

The rhumba specialist also is slated for six weeks at the Paramount theatre before returning to the Coast for Metro film assignments.

Name band situation at various N. Y. hotels doesn't look good in the immediate future. Combination of a lack of names and the comparatively low salaries these spots offer, which has tended lately toward veering the better names away from N. Y. hotels, seems to be putting some of the hoteliers on the spot for tal- . . . For example, the Park Hotel has no band and yet is the current Shep Fields, who closes Jan. 5. Only in rarest cases does a book- ing stay as long as near the deadline. Several other spots are in the same predicament.

New York hotel bookings, which carry high prestige, were eagerly sought after pre-war, despite the fact that the hoteliers were losing negotiations. Since Pearl Harbor, however, the average of many leaders toward such bookings has changed. On the average, location-date salaries out of town have risen steadily until many of them can be made only for the biggest bands; but N. Y. still maintains its pre-war payoff standards.

## Nitery Juke Operators Seen Paying Special Tax for Cleve. Relief

Cleveland, Dec. 21. Jukebox operators will be asked to kick against a special tax to the city of Cleveland, with proceeds being used for relief of unemployed persons, a plan suggested by Mayor Frank J. Lausche is passed by the council. The tax would be levied on the sale of 2,000 music boxes grinding out second music in this city's night spots. The tax would be levied on the sale of 2,000 music boxes grinding out second music in this city's night spots. The tax would be levied on the sale of 2,000 music boxes grinding out second music in this city's night spots.

City's attorneys are looking into the matter, but it is expected that such assessments should be added to Cleveland's funds for the relief of distressed families. Jukebox operators' association, represented by Samuel Alderman, is putting up a fight against the measure, but a poll revealed that enough councilmen favor passing it.

## Chicago Jukes Taxed

Chicago, Dec. 21. The juke-box industry in Chicago was hit for a \$450,000 jackpot last week when the city council, searching for new sources of revenue, passed an ordinance providing for a \$50 license fee for each box effective Jan. 1. There are an estimated 9,000 juke-boxes in operation in the city.

Although the aldermen have long looked on the lucrative jukebox business as a source of income, they were wont to declaim against it, too. The industry "is the biggest racket in the country," Alderman John J. Duffy, remarked before the council voted to levy the license fee by a vote of 29 to 15.

## OMAHA'S ACE BALLROOM DESTROYED BY BLAZE

Omaha, Dec. 21.

Chermot ballroom, largest in this section, was gutted by fire in the early hours of Thursday (18). Building was 50% damaged.

Fire followed by only a few minutes the end of a special dance for the swing shift of the Mid-Nebraska bomber plant employees. Damage will exceed \$50,000, and Tom, operator of the Chermot and string of other midwest ballrooms, was unable to say what would be done at this time.

Acher had arrived in Omaha just after 10 to see about the Chermot manager, Joe Walsh, 33, who died suddenly early last week. Chermot was a big-time success in operation and played the top bands. Extensive improvements were made last summer.

## Hal McIntyre 4-F

Hal McIntyre took an induction physical in N. Y. last week and was rejected. Leader, from N. Y., from Miami, where his band is at the Flagler Gardens, to take the test. McIntyre had been in 1-A for months prior to his latest rejection, but was delayed due to the poor health of his wife.

## 2D PA. DANCE SPOT TO TEST NAME BANDS

Valencia Ballroom, York Pa., operated by Sadio Tassia, is also reopening a name-band for New Year's night as a test that will guide future policy. Spot hasn't used a name band for some time due to transportation problems both for prospective patrons and bands playing it but has been using Jan Garber's band as the trial horse.

If Garber's date indicates the area of support big traveling bands again, they will be resumed on a weekly basis, or as often as they can be brought. Sunnyside, Potomac, Pa., operated by Ray Hartenstein, is also resuming on New Year's Eve. This is also a week looking. Hartenstein has Bob Allen for the date.

Joe Glaser showed off for Coast Monday (20), picking up family in Hollywood enroute, to remain in Hollywood over holidays.

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## Record \$400,000 1943 Profit For Robbins' 'Big 3'

A record for the Big Three—as Jack Robbins has incorporated his Fein, Miller and Robbins' Music Corp.—is the \$400,000 net profit established by the three companies on a \$1,750,000 gross music business in 1943. While a record for the trio, Robbins alone, in the halcyon 1928 days of the pioneer talkers, when Metro first bought 51% into Robbins' business, likewise made a 400% profit. That was the era of "Broadway Melody," "Fagan Love Song" and kindred film scores, and also in a lush period when there wasn't as much financial competition.

Robbins, incidentally, this year paid off the final \$100,000, plus some \$30,000 in interest, on the \$450,000 Feist deal, which was bought by Metro-Robbins, financed out of the Robbins firm. Last year the publisher made final payments on previous mergers, embracing some \$120,000 of which \$30,000 was for the Sherman Clay catalog and \$40,000 for Miller Music, which also included Vincent Youmans' catalog. All these deals had been negotiated by Julian T. Ables, copyright attorney for Metro.

## HEIDT SUSPENDS HIS ALLIED MUSIC FIRM

Allied Music, publishing firm established and owned by band-leader Horace Heidt, shuttered last week after approximately six months of existence. Hal Fein, professional manager, is now ill and his plans aren't definitely known, but it's expected he will return to the staff of Harms Inc. where he was spotted before Heidt went into business.

Heidt intends keeping his catalog, which originally was owned by Green Bros.-Knight, in camp for the duration.

## Mrs. Fisher Cuts Claim Vs. Mills to 12 Songs

An amended complaint was filed by Mrs. Anne Fisher, widow of Fred Fisher, in the Fisher Music vs. Mills Music case last week in N. Y. supreme court. The original claim was for \$65,000, involving royalties on 17 songs that Mrs. Fisher claims Mills owes her, but the amended complaint now names 12 songs, or \$60,000. Mrs. Fisher claims that under an agreement between Mills and Fisher, involving 12 songs that Fisher wrote with other writers, he was to get one-third of all royalties from Mills. She states that from time to time royalties were paid, but full royalties were never forthcoming.

Motion by Mills for a dismissal of the complaint, on the grounds that court has no jurisdiction, will be heard Jan. 4.

## Romberg's D. C. Concert Marred When Musicians' Instruments Don't Arrive

Washington, Dec. 21.—First mishap in the 270 concerts given by Sigmund Romberg and his concert orchestra occurred here Dec. 16, at scheduled concert at Constitution Hall. Romberg and his troupe, traveling from Canton, Ohio, arrived an hour and a half late, with the orchestral instruments still on the road. However, he went on, cost in hand, and accompanied the four vocal soloists with the group, while the crowd of 2,500 waited patiently for the instruments to arrive. They never did, so at 11:15 p.m., Romberg had to admit that they wouldn't put on a full show that night, and those who wanted a refund could get it. A few of the remaining 1,000 did ask for their money back.

In the interim of 8:30 to 10 p.m., 'volunteers' were asked to fill in and two pianists did so. Dorothy Sandlin, Washington soprano, skedaddled to take the place of Martha Ercole as featured singer with the troupe that night, went on in an impromptu session accompanied by one of the 'volunteer' pianists.

## 15 Best Song Sellers (Week Ending Dec. 18)

Paper Doll.....Marks  
Beautiful Christmas.....Berlin  
Beautiful Morning.....Crawford  
Pistol Packing Mama.....Mayfair  
Heart Tells Me.....BVC  
Victory Polla.....Chappell  
Be Home for Xmas.....Melrose  
For First Time.....Shapiro  
Either Too Young.....Wimark  
People Will Say.....Crawford  
Say a Prayer.....Southern  
Shoo Shoo Baby.....Leeds  
Put Your Arms, Honey.....Bway  
How Sweet You Are.....Remick  
Sup, Mon, or Always.....Mayfair.

## BBC Lifts Ban On 'Paper Doll'

London, Dec. 21.—Restrictions by BBC against broadcast performances of 'Paper Doll' were lifted last week (15), with no explanations given as to why the song was finally cleared. Previously reported that 'Paper Doll' was not considered complimentary to British womanhood.

Repeated requests by American servicemen who received 'Paper Doll' in 'hit kits' sent from home are credited by some sources for official action making an honest woman out of the 25-year-old song smash. Concerted drive by the Peter Maurice Music Co., who received British rights to the tune from Marks, to duplicate American success of song is planned.

'Paper Doll' continues to hold up in the States, latest reports received here placing sheet sales at 837,000 copies, plus some 50,000 in Canada. Decca record of 'Doll' by the Mills Brothers has reached over 1,500,000 sales.

Don George and Irving Bibb collaborated on five ditties, 'Lovely,' 'Stop Foolin' Beautiful to Look At,' 'Impassioned' and 'We're Havin' a Wonderful Time' for The Merry Monahans at Universal.

## Concerts Soft Snap to Draper-Adler Despite Some Chiseling Promoters

### 'Oklahoma' Cues Other Decca Musical Albums

Decca's click with the 'Oklahoma' album, a fast-selling \$5 item, is prompting the disk company to go down the line with other Broadway click musicals. 'Connecticut Yankee' is currently being waxed with the original cast. Vivienne Segal, Dick Fagan, et al. Others will

World Broadcasting studios is the site now of these muscledom waxings, rather than Decca's own labs.

### VanHeusen, Burke Will License Songs Outside ASCAP, Singing Society

In what is probably the first major attempt on the part of songwriters to get as their own performing rights representatives, Jimmy Van Heusen and Johnny Burke, who are signing ASCAP to have their small performing rights contract with the Society rescinded, are circulating letters to publishers of their songs saying that they will enter into separate agreements with each publisher for the performing rights of the songs in their respective catalogs. Case against ASCAP was filed in the U. S. District Court last week. Burke and Van Heusen, former in A and latter in B, both sought an AA ruling in ASCAP, but this was refused by the Appeals board of the Society in October.

Suit in which Burke asks \$25,000 and Van Heusen seeks \$15,000 damages, and accounting, also seeks to null and void Article 14, Section 68 of the Articles of the Society, which says that "any reclassification cannot be made retroactive" for both writers seek retroactive claims dating to March, '43, when they first asked for higher ratings in the Society.

Larry Adler and Paul Draper, who wind up their concert tour with two more weeks in January—their final December date is on the 30th, with the Detroit Symphony—state that that's been the softest touch in years. They point to the \$2,000 per concert, and upward, for their share, as o. o. evidence thereof. Sometimes the variances of the local concert promoter are such as to shame a Galety or Strand theatre building chiseling agent, but by and large it comes out all right.

There was one instance when the two played to an audience of 12, just to frustrate such a promoter, and collected, rather than be shamed into the gag of you'll be playing to an empty house. That came about because of the promoter's misuse in advertising.

A standing gag between Adler and Draper is that the former, with only a harmonica as a prop, can walk off the train only a few minutes before curtain time, and do his stuff, whereas Draper must rehearse three and four hours ahead of time with Arthur Ferrante, their regular accompanist, in order to get accustomed to dancing on this or that particular stage.

## 3 TOP SONGWRITERS DIE WITHIN WEEK

The deaths in New York Saturday (18) of Joseph McCarthy and George Whiting removed from the Broadway scene the lyric writers of some of this century's most popular songs. McCarthy's 'After Blue Gown' and Whiting's 'My Blue Heaven' were outstanding hit parades of pre-radio days and still retain popularity.

Thomas 'Fats' Waller's death last week also decimated the songwriters' ranks. Complete details are under obits.

A memorial musical tribute to Fats Waller was presented last night (Tuesday) at Cafe Society Downtown, N. Y. WNEW aired a portion of the tribute at 10:35 p.m.

Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Victorious New Year



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# Miami Nixes Felshin, Brooks Niterly License

Miami Beach, Dec. 21. The Miami Beach city council has revoked the liquor license for Ciro's, scheduled to open this week because of the police records of the licensee, Alvin Felshin and Jerry Brooks. A temporary license had been issued recently to Felshin to operate at the old Nut Club location.

Felshin's attorney admitted to the council that Felshin had been fined \$200 and given a six-month probation sentence for failure to collect amusement taxes and for the embezzlement of \$2,700 tax funds while he was operating a New York night club, when the license was issued. Records showed that Brooks, under the name of Philip Kewsky, was sentenced in 1929 to six months in the workhouse in New York for attempted grand larceny. Other records received showed that Felshin and Brooks still owe \$390 in salaries to two members of the American Guild of Variety Artists in New York.

According to FBI reports, Felshin and Brooks operate the Yacht Club in N. Y., and controlled the Famous Door there. FBI reports also disclosed that Felshin pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charging him with failure to file truthful amusement tax returns amounting to \$2,700. Felshin was sentenced on Aug. 15, 1941, and their night club license was revoked by the New York Alcohol Beverage Control Board.

## Bill Jordan Plead On AGVA Unfair List

Miami Beach, Dec. 21. Arthur Kaye, American Guild of Variety Artists' rep., has filed a letter with the city of Miami, Fla., on the part of Bill Jordan, Bar of Music, on the unfair list for letters failure to sign closed-shop agreement with AGVA. There is no dispute between AGVA and the Bar of Music as far as working conditions are concerned.

Kaye advised members of AGVA now employed at the Bar of Music to cease work there by Dec. 17.

## GEORGE WOOD

Exposunda On  
New Functions for Niterly  
Agents

In the 38th Anniversary Edition of  
**VARIETY**  
(Post-War Show Business  
Number)

## Sinatra's 38G Pitt Gross A New Record After Slow First Half; Flu a Factor

Pittsburgh, Dec. 21. Heavy business had three days of his engagement at Stanley enabled Frank Sinatra to wind up with around \$19,000 gross for himself as the result of a \$30,000 gross last week. Original estimate had been \$22,500. That 36 grand is plenty of coin locally. In fact it's a house record for the WB deluxer. But it's Sinatra's misfortune, on the strength of his sensational dollar and two (\$80,000) the week before in Boston, that some figure the \$18,000 slightly disappointing. Under conditions, flu and threatened school suspensions for Sinatra fans, ducking classes to help the h.o. here.

Before he opened, they were freely predicting around the Stanley that he'd bring in \$45,000 and \$55,000, and the boys were laughing at those squamous enough to suggest a higher figure. When the opening day and half houses, followed by an ordinary Saturday and a good Sunday performance that didn't even go clean down there. You could have heard a pin drop around the WB office. The seven scheduled shows a day dropped to six and then to five. But by Monday (13) evening, the show had gotten around that seats weren't as slow to get at the Stanley as most everybody had been predicting. The show had a campaign and his shot into high gear. For his last five nights, Sinatra averaged over \$25,000.

Another record Sinatra smashed was in publicity. There hasn't ever been a star so locally who grabbed that kind of space. And considering war time as well as the light papers which are being run three days the volume the swooner got make it all the more phenomenal.

## Sinatra's Philly Biz

Philadelphia, Dec. 21. Appearance of Frank Sinatra at the Stanley-Warner Eagle is influencing the pattern of his other following. He's the show that's the thing, but the panic turnout of the faithful that was expected.

Like in Pittsburgh, his opening Friday (17) was free from the expected stampede for which the Eagle had prepared with a police detail. Biz, however, was healthy. In fact, the house on Friday and Saturday was as heavy as it's ever been at the Eagle, and in view of the gripe epidemic and coming into the pre-mat week, reasonably one of the worst in show business, business was considered phenomenal.

## 'ICECAPADES' ROUSING \$80,000 IN MONTREAL

Montreal, Dec. 21. Flu epidemic and Christmas shopping, plus below-zero temperatures every day up to Friday (17), hit attendance for 'Icecapades of 1944' at the 100-seat Forum here Dec. 12-18, after a record of \$80,000 in 1943. At \$2.50 top, Gross was estimated at rousing \$80,000 but could have been as much as \$100,000 on the night above drawbacks.

Also detrimental to the take was the strike and firemen's strike Tuesday (14) which was not called off until midnight. Fans scared to travel in a polio city.

## Special Henie Show For Servicemen in Chi

Chicago, Dec. 21. A special performance for servicemen will be given at the Stadium here by Sonja Henie and her Hollywood Ice Revue this Friday night (24). Show opens to the public the following night.

## DIOSA, COSTELLO

Queen of the Latin Bombshell! Signed to star in Vincente Minnelli's new revue, "Curtain Time," opening Dec. 27 in San Francisco. Last known all records at Havana, Madrid, New York's top Latin-American night.

A constant attraction with plenty of four-figure places.

## Adults Are Worst Vandals in Cafes

Minneapolis, Dec. 21.

Exhibitors and night club owners here complain that vandalism has spread from juvenile to adult patrons and charge that the offenders now are among the worst offenders. In the theaters, it's claimed, more adults than minors are being discovered smoking in violation of regulations and the groupings are starting to follow in the footsteps of the youths in damaging property.

Night club and bar owners charge that many of their patrons callously burn upholstered seats and hangings with cigarettes. A common practice is to stuff a lighted cigarette into seat upholstery.

The first casually suffered by one of the local theater bars was blamed on a lighted cigarette stuffed into a chair and unnoticed when the establishment closed. The top clothes was the sufferer and its interior was gutted by flames. Luckily, the bar's liquor stock suffered comparatively minor damage.

## Detroit Groups Move To Protest Measure On 20% Niterly Tax

Detroit, Dec. 21.

Five employer and employee groups moved in coordination here to protest to Michigan's Congressmen and Senators against the proposed 20% amusement tax on niterly.

The bill, which passed the House providing a 30% tax, was cut by the Senate committee to 20%—still quadruple the present 5% tax. The protest here is taking the tack that such taxes are prohibitive and hit the amusement business, a major prop to national morale, should not encourage relaxation of the law for a limited group with high incomes but should be equally available to lower income workers.

Those who are taking the concerted action on the Michigan front are the Hotel and Restaurant Employees Alliance (AFL), American Federation of Musicians (AFL); the Actors Guild (AFL), the Tavern Owners Assn; and the Michigan Booking Agents Assn.

## Belle Baker Forced To Quit Chi Cafe Via Illness

Chicago, Dec. 21. Belle Baker was forced to withdraw from the Cabana here last week due to illness. Opening of the week was postponed for several days when she contracted duodenal ulcer rival here, and a sick bed and quack cures she had been given covered. Result was that she's now confined to her hotel. On top of that her accompanist, Edna Harkins, also took sick and left for his home in Trenton, N. J.

Jack Kirby, of the Oklahoma's head at the Erlanger theatre, and Dick Buckley have been substituting for the ailing Miss Baker, while Gus Jacobson, operator of the spot, practically searches for another headliner.

# Boston Niteries Can Have Their Pie But Can't Be Choosy on Who'll Eat It

## Miami Influx Extends Liquor Sale An Hour

Miami, Dec. 21. Influx of winter visitors credited for city commission's action Wednesday (15) in extending sales period for hard liquor dispensing to one hour. New hours will remain in effect until May 1.

Bars now stay open until 1 a. m. weekdays and 2 a. m. Saturday night. Package stores had their closing time advanced to 8 p. m.

## Deals for New Year's Eve in L.A. Scaled Down From \$16.08

Los Angeles, Dec. 21. New Year's Eve banquets in the better spots won't be any stiffer than in previous years despite plenitude of spending coin, dearth of likker and hard-to-get vendors. Most of the grocers are featuring deals, in which cover, eats and favors are included in the over-all tap.

Top coin is being asked by Ambassador Hotel's Coconut Grove, where Freddy Martin's band holds forth without benefit of floor show. For \$16.08 there's also a breakfast included in addition to what the other spots have to offer. Biltmore Bowl is getting \$14.46. Broadway \$12.50. Slappy Maxie's \$12. Paladium dinner \$8.50. Hollywood Casino \$10. Charlie Fox's \$8.50. Valley Lodge \$10. Casa Mahana \$7.50. Pirates Den \$7.50.

Reservations are tight but a complete sellout all around is anticipated.

## Detroit Raps Inflation

Detroit, Dec. 21. There must not be any inflation in the New Year's celebration here, niterly operators were warned last week by the OPA. While several out-State cities have been permitted a 10% increase to cover the cost of special shows, the scores of niteries here will be held to last year's prices.

In fact, a warning was put out that if anyone paid more this season than a year ago, the niterly operator would be liable for criminal proceedings and triple damages—three times the amount of the overcharge.

## Mostel's Roxy Date

Zero Mostel goes into the Roxy theatre, N. Y., last week in March, for two weeks. It's the comedian's first engagement since leaving the Army on a medical release. He's on the same bill with Count Basie's band.

Mostel is to get \$3,000 per.

Boston, Dec. 21. Hub restaurants, taverns and niteries can have their pie, but they can't be choosy who eats it.

The ruling came from the city licensing board last week following a complaint lodged by a patron who ordered a piece of apple pie in a tavern and was refused it on the grounds that he was a stranger. The pie was being saved, for regulars.

Himself a restaurant operator, the fellow knew his statutes concerning them and cited an old city law which provided a tip up to \$50 in any case where a common victualer refuses to supply food to a stranger or traveler.

The board dug about in its files and admitted that such a law was indeed inscribed therein. Its decision ruled that taverns, restaurants and other common victualers, which include all niteries, do not have the right to be particular in choosing customers to be served, and are, moreover, required to have sufficient food on their premises at all time and upon request to serve such food which may be available and offered for sale.

The board took no action against the tavern proprietor, who claimed he believed he had the right under OPA regulations, to serve pie only to those who bought full meals. The board's implication, however, was that subsequent complaints will be dealt with according to the rules.

## Chi Memorial to 605 Dead In 1903 Theatre Fire

Chicago, Dec. 21. Plans were completed last week by a committee of the Junior Chamber of Commerce for the 40th annual memorial service for the victims of the 1903 theatre fire. As in former years, the observance will be held in the council chambers of the city hall at 3:32 p. m. on Dec. 30. At that hour, on Dec. 30, 1903, during a matinee performance of Eddie Foy in "Mr. Bluebird," the fire broke out, snuffing out the lives of 605 persons.

Truquos was located on the site now occupied by the Oriental theatre. Following the catastrophe, sweeping safety laws were enacted throughout the country.

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## 2 New York Sessions Map Fight Vs. 20% Tax: Ask Aid From Patrons

Two gatherings of persons connected with all fields of the legitimate theatre were held last week with the objective of obtaining reconsideration by Congress of the admission tax provision in the new revenue act, levy on tickets having been lifted from 10% to 20%. Showman regard that issue as unfair and likely to strangle the theatre which has been going all-out in its varied ways to restore House War and Marine Committee wrote in the 20% tax clause and the Senate Finance Committee declined to revise the percentage despite appeals from Broadway.

Over the weekend it became known that Congress will not convene until Jan. 10, which will give theatre committees nearly a week more to get a planned protest campaign functioning. While details are still being worked out, the proposition to ask patrons throughout the country to protest to their Congressmen and Senators. Appeals to the public will be made through theatre programs, posters and spot radio.

A meeting was held last night (17) at the Hotel Astor, N. Y., management committee being formed made up of Bert Lytell, Walter J. Langston, Alfred Harding for Equity; Brock Pemberton and Michael Todd, producers; Edward G. Robinson, George S. Kaufman, Richard Rogers, Dramatists Guild; Richard Walsh, James J. Brennan, J. McDevote, American Theatre Wing; Oliver Saylor, Milton Weintraub, agents and managers; Claire Meezer, William Feinberg, musicians union; Morris Seamon, James J. Murphy, ticket sellers; union; George Heller, American Federation of Radio Artists; Harry Leverton, Mrs. Samuel Newton and J. Howard Reber, drama clubs and little theatres.

## Theatre Wing Ready To Back Camp Stock; Awaits Army Okay

American Theatre Wing is ready to wholly finance camp in Army camps but as yet has not been able to obtain a go-ahead order from Army. Limitation of space in the camps by the USO is the principal reason for the Wing to propose stock, which it is hoped will counterbalance the expense that men in uniform prefer pictures and video shows. USO has curtailed the amount of money it can show this season but one or two legions are being readied for camp tours, first planned to be "Red Army Men."

Wing's general plan is to spot stocks in camps for periods of four to six weeks, thereby indicating that considerable percentage of theatres prefer plays to a set of films. Heretofore plays have been slated for only one or two performances, when they should have remained for a week. Final say in those matters appears to be in the hands of Army officers, although USO represents publicly subscribed funds.

If Wing plan eventuates it is hoped not only to plant stocks over here but in service quarters on the various war fronts.

## ENGEL INSTALLED AS TREASURERS CLUB PREZ

Treasurers Club of America installed Irving Engel, head of the Winter Garden, N. Y., boxoffice staff, as its president during the annual dinner given at the Edison hotel Saturday night. Engel, 42, succeeded Allan J. Schnebb, head of the club for seven years and a member of the organization 36 years. In recognition of his services to the club Schnebb was given \$1,000 war bond. Former president Harry B. Nelmes was elected vice-president; Leo S. Nelmes, treasurer; Thurber N. Wilkins, financial secretary; Hugh J. McCauley, recording secretary. Five new members of the board are: Herman Lohs, James N. Vincent, Lewis H. Harris, Charles R. Bowman and George A. Baldwin.

Palmer's Choice Guy Palmerston, legit stock producer-director, has gone to the Coast for a vacation and to complete a novel, "Gosse Chase" (previously titled "I Hope You Keep").

## BENNETT CERF

Discusses on  
'The Case of The Presumptuous Booklover'

In  
**VARIETY'S**  
Post-War Show Business  
Number  
(38th Anniversary Edition)

## Gertie As 'Susan' Neat \$17,600 at \$1.65 Top In New York City Revival

One week's revival of 'Susan and God' with Gertrude Lawrence, at N. Y.'s City Center, formerly Mecca Temple, was fairly successful. Gross was over \$17,600 at \$1.65 top, capacity at that sale approximating \$28,000. Show was put on by Jol Golden as a courtesy to Mayor LaGuardia, since the city is operating the Center.

Orders were issued that no tickets be allotted the agencies otherwise, the takings might have been materially higher. Understood, the mayor did not want tickets to reach the hands of brokers, but the latter said that had he requested it they would have handled tickets for 'Susan' at boxoffice prices.

'Susan' had John Pollack as general manager and Robert Burton as stage. After the finale performance star invited them to her dressing room for a toast which was 'Here's to the missing musketeer.' She referred to the late Eddie Cook, long associated with Golden and the attractions in which Miss Lawrence appeared for him.

**Lois Wilson Back in 'Miss' After Week's Illness**  
Portland, Ore., Dec. 21.  
Lois Wilson, reported in Portland hospital ill with pneumonia, rejoined the cast of 'The Girl in the Auditorium' Thursday night (18) after a week's illness.

Her understudy took the role for the Seattle engagement.

## Connelly on 'Chicken'

Marc Connelly has taken over the direction of the Edward Gross production, 'Chicken Every Sunday', for which Gross came east from the Coast some weeks ago.

Philip and Julius Epstein have received a three-month leave of absence from Warner where they're under a writing contract, to do the play, slated for production on Broadway this season.

With 'Something for the Boys' leaving the Alvin, N. Y., for the road after another two weeks, and 'Jackpot' being booked into that spot, the booking muddle on Broadway, especially as applicable to musicals, is clearing.

Outlook now is for 'Mexican Hayride' to come into the Imperial as originally booked, with 'One Touch of Venus' moving from there to the 46th Street. Latter house has the long-running 'Rosaldina,' its booking people still 'prevailing.' If worded to the road, another berth is possible, the Broadhurst and Majestic being mentioned. In the latter theatre 'The Merry Widow' is faring well enough although considerably off in the pre-holiday slump. Same goes for 'Early To Bed' at the Broadhurst.

Understood that 'Winged Victory' will remain at the 44th Street into the spring. 'Rosaldina' having vacated that house to accommodate the Army Air Corps play. Originally 'Victory' was slated for eight weeks but additional time has been arranged for the patriotic drama, and tickets for performances dated into March are slated to be put on sale soon.

## 'Sons' Chorus Injured In Shooting Accident

St. Louis, Dec. 21.  
Dorothy Veronica Langdon, member of the chorus in Olsen and Johnson's 'Sons O' Fun' company, suffered a painful gunshot injury last week when the revue played a one-week stand at the American theatre to a SRO house. As a gripper fired a blank pistol into a steel drum for a sound effect, Miss Langdon was injured in front of the drum. The wadding entered her leg below the knee. Taken to Bagdad hospital, Miss Langdon is recovering.

The audience was unaware of the incident and the show continued without pause.

## Severe Broadway Biz Drop Comes One Week Sooner Than Expected

**EDWARD JOHNSON**  
(Of the Met)  
'SEES A BIG FUTURE FOR OPERA'  
and even if he's only slightly prejudiced it's worthy reading in

**VARIETY'S**  
Post-War Show Business  
Number  
(38th Anniversary Edition)

## New Opera Co. Demands Arbitration on Singer—Who Quit 'Rosaldina'

New Opera Co., producer of 'Rosaldina,' at the 46th Street Theatre, N. Y., has demanded arbitration proceedings in an effort to force comedienne, Virginia MacWatters to return to the show. Latter left the cast about Nov. 20 and has since been signed for the forthcoming musical, 'Marianne.'

Actress-singer is charged in the New Opera complaint with violation of her contract. She denies the accusation and has issued a counterclaim of illegal use of her name and photo by the management. George Sommes, legit producer-director, has been chosen as the New Opera representative on the arbitration panel, with Montrose H. Master, an attorney, named by Miss MacWatters. The third panel member has not yet been selected. Date for the hearing is not set.

Miss MacWatters is expected to subpoena the members of the board of trustees of the New Opera Co. in an attempt to prove that they made verbal promises to all members of the 'Rosaldina' cast, when the original contracts were signed and at various times thereafter, to release anyone who might be able to get a better offer for another show. She claims this was to persuade them to accept relatively low salaries for the 'Rosaldina' engagement.

Severe drop in attendance on Broadway has been expected, particularly, with Monday (18) dropping as much as 50% from the previous Monday. There was some recovery Tuesday, but another drop on Wednesday. There were some new successes but a majority of attractions, including sturdy hits, were socked with a gross ticket that was anticipated.

The heavy decline came one week ahead of time, but outside the week which terminates with Christmas, is likely to see better grosses, ticket sale for Friday and Saturday (24-25) being reported favorably. Some attractions had lifelines in the form of theatre parties last week, but those without such ticket deals currently may suffer further.

The epidemic of influenza and gripe was a major reason for nose-diving grosses, as shown by the unusual number of ticket cancellations at boxoffices with frigid weather and the December tax deadline further demoralized. There seems to be many people around with money to spend but the rush to buy Christmas gifts has been a major cause to urge to see shows.

It's recalled that attendance has been dropping since the week of Thanksgiving though business has remained good. The great business slump has been a factor but it has not been denied. Not all performances have been capacity but grosses last week were not too far from the big money. The heavy grossers are: 'Carmen Jones' (Broadway), 'Winged Victory' (44th Street), 'The Sign of the Cross' (Plymouth) and 'Othello' (Shubert). The run shows are those which suffered the most. 'The Sign of the Cross' is the slackest of the season, two new shows are taking a chance and bowing out before Christmas.

Around the ticket agencies the slump is discounted as merely being a seasonal thing. They are taking it in stride, sure of big business after Christmas.

## Equity Council Asks Subsidy Continuance As Aid to Living Costs

Acting on appeals by petition, Equity's Council has urged Congress to continue the system of subsidies, many actors fearing that otherwise the cost of living will still further. Contention is that if living becomes more expensive the increase in minimum wages for union actors will be nullified. Last year Equity sought an increase and the War Labor Board okayed it. It fixed the minimum pay 15%, or from \$50 to \$57.50. If subsidies are dropped it is felt that the increase will be more than absorbed by the cost of commodities and other expenditures.

There were more than 15 petitions signed by players appearing on Broadway, and it's understood that other petitions are still being circulated among companies on the road. Question of subsidies will still be postponed until after Congress convenes following its Christmas layoff.

## 'JOHNNY,' 'LADY HOME' SCRATCH B'WAY DEBUTS

Booking changes on next week's Broadway premiere list were required early this week when two of the three scheduled equities suddenly cancelled.

CIO's 'Marching With Johnny' will not come to N. Y. City theatre. It was due to start an engagement of four or more weeks next Wednesday (29). 'A Lady Comes Home,' due at the Cort, scratched the Broadway debut after its Pittsburgh troupe last week. Both 'Johnny' and 'A Lady Comes Home' are currently in Philadelphia, winding up there Saturday (26) although the latter may get additional run time. 'South Pacific' secured the Cort for opening there next week, the other arrival being 'Doctors Disagree,' Elton.

'Johnny' is said to represent an investment of more than \$50,000. Trouble with the reserve was recently indicated when Philip Loeb quit the directorial post and joined the cast. Robert H. Gordon, producer. Beatrice Kay has the leading female part.

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# Chi Slumps But 'Okla. Still Sellout

## At \$30,000, 'Kiss' 12½G, 'Jamie' \$7,000

Most attractions were victims of the pre-holiday slump last week, only exception being 'Oklahoma,' a sellout again. 'Kiss and Tell' took the big drop, hitting \$1,000. 'Good Night, Ladies' was liked for two grand for a \$11,000 week.

**Estimates for Last Week**

'Good Night, Ladies': Blackstone (8th week) (1,200; \$2.75). Dipped to \$1,000. (1,000; \$2.75). Based off to \$1,000.

'Jamie' (Circ) (9th week) (900; \$2.75). Closed. Saturday (18) to \$1,000.

'Kiss and Tell' Harris (32d week) (1,000; \$2.75). Down to \$12,500.

'Oklahoma' Erlanger (5th week) (1,400; \$3.85). Sellout \$30,000.

'Tomorrow the World' Selwyn (6th week) (1,000; \$2.75). Based off to \$13,000.

'Respected Honeymoon' Great Northern (4th week) (1,400; \$2.75). Cutrate tickets held up receipts to around \$5,700.

# 'CORN' WOW \$24,000

## IN SPLIT WEEK AT K.C.

'The Corn Is Green,' with Ethel Barrymore, was being registered as seasonal business, but the drama having played almost continuously for four years, last week it topped \$24,000. At Kansas, Denver, Cedar Rapids, St. Joe and Kansas City, last three weeks being regular, 'The Corn' gave but seven performances.

Herman Shumlin, who produced 'Corn' at the Fox Theatre, is back again next season provided Miss Barrymore assents to appear in it at that time.

# New Chatterton Play

## NSG \$3,000 in Pitt

Pittsburgh, Dec. 21. Nixon went to New York for the season last week, with new Ruth Chatterton play, 'A Lady Comes Home.' In seven performances, Monday night opener had receipts called off on account of insufficient receipts. House hasn't done so well in several years, and curiosity about that, with word of another Chatterton tryout, tonight 'We Were City' without exception failed 'Lady.'

Nixon currently has another new opera, 'The Song of the Lark,' which will play an additional week, Cleveland after Pittsburgh, before going to New York. 'The Song' is set, middle of February, with Berton 'Jackpot,' 'Marianne,' 'Patriots' and 'Kiss and Tell.'

# 'Sons' Sock \$31,000 For

## St. Louis Season's Best

St. Louis, Dec. 21. Olsen and Johnson's 'Sons of Fun' proved the best draw of the current legit season locally, and the piece, which is a one-act comedy, was an American theatre Saturday (18), hung up the banner tale since the first. With 'Sons' playing at \$5 a show, the eight performances have made a house full of 100 nights and \$2,800 for matinee the gross was an estimated \$31,000. The first night closed with a record Joe Besser, a native and one of the stars, topping plenty of bouquets.

House dark currently for the first time this season, 'Patriots' (27), with 'Patriots' for a one-week engagement.

# Gilbert-Sullivan Rep

## Neat \$17,000, Boston

Washington, Dec. 21. The Boston Comic Opera Co. playing a supporting Gilbert-Sullivan, checked in with \$17,000 on the first performance at the National theatre. Second week was an American Saturday expected to do a fourth play with 10 performances. There's a healthy advance for the Boston play, 'The Song of the Lark' Max Gordon brings in Dec. 27. Mail, accounted for more than \$5,000, many of the receipts, including being for New Year's Eve, which will be played at the regular \$2.75 scale.

# 'ARSENIC' 10G, CINCY

Cincinnati, Dec. 21. Boris Karloff in 'Arsenic and Old Lace' did all right last week in the Cincinnati box theatre, grossing approximately \$10,000.

Top was \$2,200.

# Carradine Troupe 22½G

## In 2 Weeks on Coast

Los Angeles, Dec. 21. Pre-Christmas shopping season is epidemic cutting in on legit grosses, holding shows slightly below normal rate. Holiday period brings in new presentations, George Abbott's 'The Assassination' 'Kiss and Tell' bowing at the Baltimore for four weeks Dec. 27 and Jack Linder re-staged Franco Nero's 'Boy with 'Lady Chatterley's Lover'.

Carradine's Shakespeare venture rounded out two weeks at the Baltimore with a profitable \$22,500 week, taking approximately \$11,500 on final stanza. Show lays off eight weeks while actor-producer considers possibility of cracking Broadway. 'Yours for Fun' at the New York Musical Box (18) cleared its nut on seventh week with \$17,000 and is on a slump on the eighth day. Ken Murray's 'Blackouts' has estimated \$16,500 end on 7th week week. 'New Meet the People' at the Astor Theatre, New York, has gained about \$3,500 on 21st week but expects to go above \$4,000 with holiday shows.

# 'CHATTERLEY' REVIVED BY LINDER FOR CAST ROUS

Jack Linder gets back into legit producing Sunday (28) when his revival of 'Lady Chatterley's Lover' opens at the Fox Theatre. The play, which is a new production, will be played by a grand old cast with a couple of new faces. The production is a crackerjack score and played cast, which includes Kay and Philip Loeb, but quibbled over the use of many skits and sketches.

When taken in, a show leader of last week was Vinton Freedley's new production, 'Philly,' playing its second week at the Forest after riding through some handicaps from the previous week. The production is a crackerjack score and played cast, which includes Kay and Philip Loeb, but quibbled over the use of many skits and sketches.

# Mull 10 Scripts For

## \$500 Pittsburgh Prize

Pittsburgh, Dec. 21. The scripts have been selected by local jurors in Pittsburgh Drama League's \$500 Playwriting Contest and sent to the New York judges for final selection. The 10 scripts were selected by Robert Gill, Playhouse director; Edwin L. Petersen, professor of creative writing at University of Pittsburgh, and Harold V. Cohen, drama editor of Post-Gazette from a batch of more than 175 submitted in Drama League competition. Final jury is composed of Catherine Corneli, Treasurer and Prof. Walter Pritchard Carter.

Winner will be announced at a Drama League meeting on Jan. 16 to be addressed by Burns Mantle, who will also speak to the local theatre-going organization at that time. If prize script is suitable and can be produced, it will be given a preem here at the Playhouse.

# 'MAD' 6G, INDIAN.

Indianapolis, Dec. 21. 'Mad in the Ozarks' grosses a national record for a one-act comedy, playing at Keith's (1,200) seated rate Dec. 18-14-15 despite poor weather.

# FAMILY' \$4,500, TORONTO

Toronto, Dec. 21. The Xmas crimp saw '3 in a Family' grossing a \$4,500 week. Royal Alexanders here, with 1,262-seater sealed at \$2.50 top.

# 'Abie' 8G, 'Doughgirls'

## 8G in Offish Boston

Boston, Dec. 21. Biz remains off in this three-acts functioning in the Hub, a slight hype being given by the operators. 'Abie' (20) of Ruth Gordon's (21) but takes are generally well below average. Next week should show different story with the holiday over the opening of 'Abie' on the ride (Shubert, Dec. 27) and 'Suds in Your Eye' (Wilbur, Dec. 28) to jerk the town back to normal.

**Estimates for Last Week**

'Abie' (20) (1,200; \$4.40). Based on \$1,242; \$7.25. Down to \$8,800 for fifth frame can, should pick up plenty along with the home crowd.

'Army Play by Play' (Wilbur) (1,200; \$4.40). Based on \$1,242; \$7.25. Down to \$8,800 for fifth frame with estimated \$8,800. Cast dispersed Sat night (18) as road tour.

'Doughgirls' (Colonia) (1,437; \$2.75). Stopped at estimated \$10,000 on 18th but should bounce back before show moves out Jan. 8.

# 'Student Prince' OK

## \$13,800 in Cleve, Week

Cleveland, Dec. 21. 'Student Prince' with Everett Marshall, began dropping at halfway mark and ended up visit at Hanna and took with \$13,800. Week was still a better gross than most revivals in Cleveland. Sales were still up for seven performances.

There was plenty of money manager, had ZaSu Pitts' 'Ramshackle' booked for Xmas week, but cancelled it to put in Maxwell Anderson's 'Operation' for 20 on a quick-change booking.

# 'Jackpot' 22G

## To Top Philly

Philadelphia, Dec. 21. Recent legit pace seems to have slackened here even more sharply than pre-holiday ease-off might warrant, but with four houses open last week, the town's business was spread around, even though it was approximated the socko standard.

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# B'way Way Off; Doughgirls' (7G, 'Kiss' 10½G, Boys' 9G, 'Carrolls' 12½G; New Clicks Strong

Reaction at the boxoffice on Broadway last week was a surprise, and number of shows on the list dropped to 10. The gross was slightly half a dozen attractions escaped the blight and, at that, some of them did manage to escape. Ticket activity for late this week indicates better.

'Pillar to Post,' newest entrant on the list last week this week's incomes, ran up against playing conditions, and its chances should be better indicated after this week.

**Estimates for Last Week**

'Keys: C (Comedy), D (Drama), C (Comedy-Drama), E (Review), M (Musical), O (Operetta).

'A Connecticut Yankee,' Beck (5th week) (CD-82; \$3.24; \$4.40). Tourist record; not dropped during slump and downgraded trend, with takings approximating \$20,000; fairly good for revival.

'Angel Street' Golden (10th week) (CD-82; \$3.24; \$4.40). Tourist record; not dropped during slump and downgraded trend, with takings approximating \$20,000; fairly good for revival.

'Another Love Story,' Fulton (10th week) (CD-82; \$3.24; \$4.40). Tourist record; not dropped during slump and downgraded trend, with takings approximating \$20,000; fairly good for revival.

'Gentle and Old Lace,' Hudson (14th week) (CD-1004; \$3.30). Tourist record; not dropped during slump and downgraded trend, with takings approximating \$20,000; fairly good for revival.

'Carmen Jones,' Broadway (3d week) (CD-1004; \$3.30). Tourist record; not dropped during slump and downgraded trend, with takings approximating \$20,000; fairly good for revival.

'The Two Mrs. Carralls,' Booth (2nd week) (CD-1004; \$3.30). Tourist record; not dropped during slump and downgraded trend, with takings approximating \$20,000; fairly good for revival.

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like most others and rated around \$18,000. 'Pillar to Post' (C-885; \$3.24; \$4.40). Tourist record; not dropped during slump and downgraded trend, with takings approximating \$20,000; fairly good for revival.

'Pillar to Post,' newest entrant on the list last week this week's incomes, ran up against playing conditions, and its chances should be better indicated after this week.

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## OBITUARIES

## THOMAS 'FATS' WALLER

Thomas W. 'Fats' Waller, 59, died in his railroad car berth Dec. 13 in Kansas City while en route to New York from Hollywood, where he had completed picture engagements. He had been bedded with influenza on the Coast two weeks before his departure, but appeared and recovered sufficiently to allow the trip.

An autopsy, however, indicated that he died of pneumonia, a fatal pneumonia. Waller was accompanied on the trip by his manager, Ed Kireby, who had all details in Kansas City for removal of the body to New York, where funeral services were held Monday (20) at the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem.

Known to the general public for his jovial, bouncing style of piano playing and singing, the 285-pound well-known Negro was respected throughout the music world for his undeniable performing talent and his composing genius. He wrote, or collaborated on, nearly 400 songs, including tunes for many Broadway hits. The score of the 1934 Richard Kollman production, 'Early to Bed' was Waller's work, and he also contributed to 'Keep Shuffling in 1937' and 'Hot Chocolate' in 1939. Also for several editions of 'Blackboard Jungle'.

He was perhaps best known for leadership of various dance and jazz combinations through personal appearances and recordings. Two of his songs, 'Ain't Misbehavin' and 'Swanee Rock' alone are established as jazz standards.

Long before declaration of war Waller started entertainers, including service camps in whatever vicinity he happened to be playing, and during these periods contributed portions of his talent up until the time of his death. Although these activities, at the pianist's request, were not publicized, the National Council of the Army & Navy Union, aides U. S. Navy organization, meeting in Philadelphia Sunday (19) voted a posthumous citation and award to Waller for his efforts to entertain the fighting men of the country he loved so well.

Capt. George H. Maines, U. S. Army, retired, of Flint, Mich., and Sergt. Jarrett Kauffman, Washington, D. C., were appointed to represent the organization at the funeral.

Although an authentic interpreter of swing jazz Waller was not a particular aversion to the recently popularized piano style known as 'boogie-woogie' (or 'barroom piano') and his contracts specified that this catchword could not be used in connection with his billing or performance.

Fats Waller as a youth studied under Carl Bohm and Leopold Godowsky, and after early periods of effort to turn him into the religious footsteps of his father. At the age of 14 he started playing the organ in St. Harlem, then soon after leaving DeWitt Clinton high school, (N. Y.) because he couldn't get enough music in the classrooms. Soon he was in the dance band field in a Harlem cabaret and his taste for songwriting and composing. His first published song, 'Squeeze Me,' still is occasionally heard in the repertoire of small jazz bands.

Waller first achieved national fame when he was a radio performer on WJLB, Cincinnati, and a CBS recording landed him a job as a recording artist. At the time of his death, the popular pianist into the classical groove followed when his lone appearance at Carnegie Hall in New York, about a year ago, failed to meet with critical approval.

The pianist-band leader also was active in vaudeville and at one time toured with an act which featured Duke Smith. He also mustered some film appearances.

He is survived by his wife, three children and an Army aviator brother and three sisters.

## GEORGE WHITING

George Whiting, 61, former vaudeville and lyric writer of many Broadway pop songs, died Dec. 13 as he was en route to New York from Hollywood, where he had completed picture engagements. He had been bedded with influenza on the Coast two weeks before his departure, but appeared and recovered sufficiently to allow the trip.

An autopsy, however, indicated that he died of pneumonia, a fatal pneumonia. Waller was accompanied on the trip by his manager, Ed Kireby, who had all details in Kansas City for removal of the body to New York, where funeral services were held Monday (20) at the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem.

of the price ring at the age of 19 and installed as a singer in the mid-western's rathskeller at the Hotel Normandie, thus becoming one of the first paid entertainers in Broadway cast history. His early warbling choruses had been handled by singing waiters. In the late Whiting attracted the attention of Harry Von Tilzer, who published one of his early songwriting efforts and living Berlin. He collaborated with him on 'My Wife's Gone to the Country,' Whiting left McCoy for vaudeville and Kireby, who had all details in Kansas City for removal of the body to New York, where funeral services were held Monday (20) at the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem.

At the time of his death the veteran songwriter and former actor was engaged in radio script editorial work. Whiting and four daughters survive.

## JOSEPH MCCARTHY

Joseph McCarthy, 38, lyricist for many top ranking musical-comedies, died Dec. 18 in New York City, one day after a long illness. He was a former writer and former actor.

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## IN MEMORY OF OUR GOOD FRIEND

Who Died in the Service of His Country  
December 12, 1943

## DAZIAN, S. INC.

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the same day. They were united and Lee and J. J. Shubert.

Edridge was connected with the Shuberts for 40 years, managing the Shubert, New Haven for many years, and also representing them in several ways. Light is survived by two sons, Herman and Norman Light, the latter being manager of the Imperial, N. Y., theatre.

## MATTHEW HYNES

Matthew Hynes, 64, who owned and managed Grand Opera House, Buckingham, W. Va., died in that city.

In addition to being an exhibitor, Hynes was chief of police in Buckingham for three terms and mayor of the town of a Civil War veteran, he himself was a veteran of the Spanish-American War and for more than a dozen years was a teacher and school principal.

Survived by widow, two sons and two daughters.

## LEO CARL

Second Lt. Leo Theodore (Ted) Carr, 26, formerly held the WGN Concert Bureau and for several years assistant executive producer of the American Guild of Musical Artists, was killed Dec. 16 in line of duty in the Army Air Corps.

Dundell, Fla. His mother and a sister survive.

He was killed at one time editor of Dance magazine. He enlisted in the Air Force two years ago and was a second class cadet training at the time of his death.

William McDonald, father of Grace McDonald, screen actress, died in Hollywood, Dec. 17, after suffering a heart attack.

He leaves a widow, two sons, Ray, and Air Force private, who was appearing in Broadway's 'Winged Victory.'

## JOSEPH ROSEY

Joseph 'Joe' Rosey, 61, writer member of ASCAP and composer of several instrumental specialties, died on Dec. 20 in New York. Among his compositions were 'Swanee Rock' and 'Ain't Misbehavin'.

He was struck in the midtown Broadway jewelry store of M. Rosenthal & Sons, founded by his father and which he had been connected for many years.

## GEORGE B. PECK

George B. Peck, veteran theatre manager, died at his home in Tampa, Fla., Dec. 17, after a long illness.

He once appeared in Spanish dance in the two years he had been in the theatre, surviving as a widow.

## MAJOR CLARK ROBINSON

Major Clark Robinson, 47, one of the most colorful men in the present-day theatre, was killed in a plane crash in Assam, India, Dec. 17.

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## DANIEL RUSSO

Daniel J. Russo, 65, widely known as show business director of the pit orchestra at the Palace theatre in New York, died Dec. 17.

He was killed in a plane crash in Assam, India, Dec. 17.

## HENRY BRETHACKER

Henry Brethacker, 95, former president of the Organists Guild of America, died in San Francisco, Dec. 17.

He was killed in a plane crash in Assam, India, Dec. 17.

## Literati

Continued from page 52

Son's, a novelette by Iva Walcott and 'The Light in the Dark' by John Had All the Luck, already sketched for Broadway production, is Mr. O'Donnell's latest work.

John Sturdivant, American Weekly magazine writer, questing features in the film industry, is the author of 'The George Weller in Hollywood to interview screen names for Chicago Daily News' and 'The Elmer George Cress, who was the Elmer Davis of World War I, passed by Mr. O'Donnell's pen as a war criminal.'

Thomas C. O'Donnell has sketched the editorial of 'Cartoons magazine to join the staff of McElride, the book publisher.'

Walter O'Meara, veteran newspaper and advertising man, has been named deputy OPA administrator in charge of information.

John L. Nanovic, who was editor of a couple of Strit & Smith pulp, now doing editorial for Arthur Kludner, the ad agency.

Gladys Swarthout's first novel, 'The Light in the Dark,' is a Semi-autobiog. dealing with a mid-west girl who makes the Met.

Emily Harris, a graduate of the Grapnel repatriates, cocktiled by the N. Y. branch of P. R. N., the international editorial organization.

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# Broadway

Merriel Abbott in *Too Hot to Coo*.  
Johnny O'Connor sidelined past few days with mild arthritis attack. Larry Kent back in *Too Hot to Coo* with family in Phoenix, Ariz.

ADA holding its first open meeting today (Wednesday) at Edison hotel.

Joe Loeblman back at United Artists home office following sick leave.

Pat Jaeger (Blue Network sales rep.) back from extended midwestern tour.

Gene Sears to Northampton for graduation of daughter, Patricia, at Smith College.

Collette Lyons, with new songs by Blanche Merrill, singing in a Cleveland night spot.

Hal Block off to Hollywood to script OWI's special Xmas radio show from Coast.

Ken Kennedy going overseas for USO-Camp Shows. Expected to return after next return.

Willbur Evans, of *C. Mexican* fame, linked to recording contract by Decca.

Jack L. Warrners to do *C. Mexican* for the first celebration and 40th anniversary dinner.

Back to back in town for singing lessons being to switch from sing-along to challenge.

ADA gave up job of publicizing Town Hall jazz concerts—said it had made the music too popular.

Tyler Mann, minus his blackface, is appearing at home from a recent operation.

Warren Minnelli, now a head, co-ed of the Air Corps, is now European Base, here on furlough.

John Morrissey, head of the Eastern talent bureau head, on CBS' *Woman's Page of Air* this week.

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Anderson, who died several months ago, died Monday, Broadway p.m., now operates two picture houses. Last week he took over the 5th St. Playhouse, which he bought from the theatre acquisition in Times Square.

(Since Frank Sinatra sent Mrs. Jack (Rose) Robbins some flowers at Doctor's office, where the doctor is a heart attack, the nurses have been told to keep the doctor's office with extra respect.

# Rio de Janeiro

By Paul Dunning  
Llona yerra still packed them at the Urea.

Downey is directing a government moving picture.

Josely Camargo's new play goes into rehearsal in four weeks.

Max Stuart is releasing a new review of Golden road in Copacabana.

Caprio is having a successful engagement at the Teatro Regina in Sero Homens Amanha.

Brasilia government is sponsoring two amateur productions, *Brasilia* and *Brasilia in Dress*.

Both directed by Ziemerhimer.

John Davis, former Westport, Conn., author, now connected with the Brazilian government, has been named to head the War Bond Drive.

There is a crew of 1,000 men working on the new bridge over the Rio de Janeiro. Hope is that one day the bridge will be ready to open by the first of the year.

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# Australia

By Elie Gerriek  
Melyon Douglas on Aussie run-around.

Some talk here of Quentin Reynolds going Aussie lecture tour in '44.

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# Minneapolis

By Les Rees  
Verle Snitzer, M-G booker, on sick list.

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# Hollywood

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# Again!

ONE OF AMERICA'S TOP  
ATTRACTIONS . . .

# THE MILLS BROTHERS

With over 1,250,000 records already sold, this Mills Brothers disc is making recording *HISTORY* at Decca . . .

. . . and *WATCH* that other side . . .

## PAPER DOLL

BACKED WITH

## I'LL BE AROUND

*SEVEN BELOW ZERO*, yet *AMAZING* crowds greeted them as they opened their current theatre tour at *AKO KEITH'S*, Boston!

*General* AMUSEMENT CORPORATION  
THOMAS G. ROCKWELL, President  
NEW YORK · CHICAGO · HOLLYWOOD · CINCINNATI · LONDON



SCREEN

RADIO MUSIC

STAGE

# THEATRE

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VOL. 153 No. 3

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1943

PRICE 25 CENTS

DEC 30/43 B

## THEATRE POSTMASTER: B. O.

### Has 19 Shows a Wk. But Quits, Doesn't Like Commercials

Chicago, Dec. 28.  
Curt Massey, whose income reaches four figures weekly from participation in 19 shows a week, declares that he plans accepting one of the offers made by Coast and New York agencies because of "misleading" of his programs prevents him from achieving national prominence.  
Massey claims that his shows are topheavy with bad commercials which, he avers, go a long way in killing an otherwise capable performer. Consequently, he has decided to throw up the sponge as far as the Windy City is concerned. He said layout of his programs prevents him from getting a decent night-time show as long as he remains here.  
Massey has two programs weekly (CBS and NBC) for Shutter Candy Co. In addition he works the five times weekly "Musical Milkwagon" over WGNL, nine 15-minute shots for Grov's Laboratories and three 10-minute shots over the WLS Variety Hunt.

### High Market Value For Legit Stagers

While Marc Connelly is getting a \$5,000 fee plus a 2% royalty on the gross, and a 5% cut in the profits for a "Chicken Every Sunday" for Edward Grouce, indie Hollywood producer who is making his Broadway debut with this play, that's not unusual. Of late any good director has been able to write his own ticket due to the current market values on such specialized services.

The dearth is ascribed to the fact (Continued on page 36)

### TOTE-YOUR-OWN IN SOME KEY CITIES FOR NEW YR.

For the first time since Prohibition, New Year's Eve revelers in a number of key cities will be totting their own liquor—at the specific request of cafe owners. Bars and night clubs have been running dry, for the beverage shortage is becoming more acute with the holidays. Requests for reservations have been continued on page 19.

### FLOWERLESS ROSE BOWL?

Pasadena, Dec. 28.  
This town is scrambling for roses to adorn its Rose Tournament on New Year's Day. Practically all flowers in the past have come from Oregon but this year they are not available because of transportation difficulties.  
Local supply of posies was cleaned out by Christmas buyers.

### Now He Knows New York, N. Y., Dec. 28.

A lonely soldier—a stranger to these parts—added the doorman of a picture house on Market street, "Where is the Stage Door Canteen?"

It didn't take the doorman long to answer: "Why, that played here eight weeks ago."

### WHITEMAN'S \$6,500 AT ROXY AS SOLO MAESTRO

Probably a new high for a solo guest maestro, playing a Broadway picture house without his own band, will be set by Paul Whiteman, musical director of the Blue network and conductor of the "Philo-Variety" "Hall of Fame" orchestra, when he goes into the Roxy, N. Y., at the end of April. Whiteman will receive \$5,000 for his chore at the 20th-Fox flagship.

Whiteman will lead the Paul Ash orchestra which will be built up to 40 men; normal complement is 18.

### MEN IN SERVICE GAIN IN GLAMOR

By MORI KRUSHEN

Film production toppers foresee a vastly increased audience for leading male stars now in the armed forces when they come back after the war, pointing out that military service is giving the stars a popular glamour buildup which no normal exploitation campaign could equal.

Estimated in "trade circles" that upon their return to the screen such stars as Clark Gable, James Stewart, Tyrone Power, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. and perhaps 10 or 15 others will attract from 10,000,000 to 20,000,000 more ticket buyers than prior to their entry into the armed forces. This, of course, is predicated on product of a type equal in quality to (Continued on page 36)

### Another Revival New York.

Editor, "Variety":  
With "Othello" and "Carmen Jones" doing sensational business, I think if you can revive "Shuffle Along" with white actors, you will make a fortune—or at least meet some old NYA members.  
Yours,

Fred Allen.

### Costliest Films

### Yet Must Wait Till End of War

Some of the costliest film productions yet planned, postponed as a result of wartime talent and material limitations are on tap for production when the war ends.

A considerable number of these pictures have been completely scripted and depend only on greater talent availability, while others, dealing with war personalities, are held back because of unfavorable reaction from official quarters to pietization of contemporary military leaders.

Among pictures held up due to lack of talent is "Quo Vadis," which was reportedly budgeted at \$4,500,000 or more. Understood that Metro production execs felt that the picture could not be properly made for a production of this type. Other casting difficulties were also involved.

"Vadis" was planned as the costliest negative since "Gone With the Wind."

### Religious Films

### Prove Big B.O.

Not only is there a definite trend toward religious and spiritual screen fare, but already the acumen of Hollywood producers in foreseeing a public demand for this type of production is being borne out in initial boxoffice returns on at least two such vehicles. Both "Song of Bernadette" (20th) and "Pleash and Fantasy" (U) are the pictures already showing the way in the public's interest for such fare as attested (Continued on page 8)

### TAG LIBERTY SHIPS FOR ADA REHAN, MRS. FISKE

Washington, Dec. 28.  
Liberty ships are to be named after two of the greatest women of the theatre of a generation or more ago.  
Ship being built at a Henry Kaiser yard in California will be called the Ada Rehan; another, under construction (Continued on page 34)

### LEGIT TRYOUTS, INC.

New York, Dec. 28.  
Newly thinking in the legit groups is Yale Drama group, now in New York City, which is contacting producers with an idea known as Try-outs, Inc.  
Idea is that group will put on plays for producers at certain fee, for one night, so that option-holders can get an idea if they want to see it done, of the finished product.

"Variety" reprints for its readers this James B. Reston story to the New York Times in the belief that it is one of the journalistic classics of World War II.

## Britain's Fifth War Christmas

By James B. Reston

LONDON, Dec. 25.—Britain tried hard to be merry today on its fifth wartime Christmas, but it tried so hard and failed so miserably that it seems even a little grimmer tonight than it did before.

The plain truth is that this is an island of lonely people—American soldiers standing around the Rainbow Club chewing the national cud of discontent; lonely old couples evacuated from their familiar dwellings; lonely young women whose men have been gone overseas for years; lonely parents whose sons are gone, many of them forever, and whose daughters are in services in the factories or on the land, far from home.

There is real hope in Britain this Christmas, which is something, and there is still gentility and goodwill, which are a great deal, but the fifth Christmas is worse than all the rest on this basic question of the break-up of family life. Now more than 80 per cent of the families on this island are broken up for one reason or another. While this is necessary and the British people can stand it 364 days out of this year and, if necessary, 364 days out of the next, on this one particular day it just knocks all the merriment out of them.

Even the children, with that divine imagination and with all these wonderful, mysterious bombed houses to play in, are less cheerful than before. Most of them, of course, do not miss the shiny metal toys that other, happier generations enjoyed. The 6,000,000 children less than 8 years old who never knew the brightness of the Christmas-mascer do not miss what they cannot remember. But the children who have learned to believe in Adolf Hitler cannot very well believe in Santa Claus, and that must be considered one of the important minor events of the war.

The American Invasion Army here tried to compensate for their loneliness in many ways. In almost every camp they invited the children of overseas British soldiers to their camps and piled them with candy, cookies and many other things, like oranges, that have almost departed from memory in this island.

As many soldiers as could find seats or standing room went to the thirty-two plays that are running in London. A number of boys from home were introduced to their first pantomime at the Coliseum, where "Humpty-Dumpty" was playing, and at His Majesty's Theatre, where "Cinderella" was on. But mainly they sat around their camps or went into the nearest town and indulged in the things in which soldiers indulge when they are on leave and bored.

On the whole, however, neither the British people nor the American soldiers solved that problem of loneliness—Despite all the promises of the Ministry of Food, the turkey and the beef did not quite go around, the whiskey was scarce and the beer was weak. Even if all these things had been available in the right quantity or strength, they would not have made up for the empty chairs.

In short, it was not a very happy Christmas, though perhaps it is just a hope's construction. In war, Hitler said, the people will come to realize that the State is the most important unit of society and the people will learn to cry out for the State. He was right—he was right about the Germans, but he was wrong again about the Americans and the British. Our men are looking to the family and not to the State, and this fact was more apparent than in Britain on this Christmas night.

(Reprinted from the New York Times of Dec. 26th, 1943.)



# TELEVISION PICTURES

## 20th-Fox Now Looks Likely \$11,000,000 Net for '43; RKO Will Top \$7,000,000

With film rentals during the last two months of 1943 equalling and topping previous months, 20th-Fox income from domestic distribution, according to latest estimates by company topers, will likely exceed \$50,000,000 for the year ending Dec. 31. Foreign rentals, also expected to climb close to \$28,000,000 for the year, while National Theatres profits, before taxes, are figured at \$20,000,000 or better, according to final figures now being computed. As a result, net profits for 20th-Fox are likely to exceed \$11,000,000.

RKO Radio Pictures rentals were reported at close to \$32,000,000 for the first 10 months of 1943, and may wind up at close to \$40,000,000 for the year. RKO weekly rentals in recent months have been reported averaging \$3,200,000 monthly, with net operating profit of around \$125,000 weekly.

On this basis, a profit of \$6,000,000 for the year is anticipated for RKO Radio Pictures, while net of \$7,000,000 for the parent company is likely to be exceeded by year's end as a result of the strong showing by both the film subsid and the RKO Theatres.

## Cartoonists Yen Quota Contracts

Hollywood, Dec. 28. Quota contracts for the production of animated cartoons is to be discussed at a meeting to be called by studio inkies. Plan under consideration would call for certain number of cartoons annually with no daily hours or weekly schedules to follow, thereby permitting those parolers in the project to govern their own working time.

Position taken by cartoonist leaders is that the plan would permit artists to again become creative artisans, instead of assembly-line workers, and would result in improved quality and lowered costs. Plan calls for staggering of work over 12-month period, with a certain number of expert animators and other classifications guaranteed regular work during the year.

Such a plan has been in operation at Homel packing plant for years and entire crews given vacations up to four-month after quotas are completed.

## Sturdivant Elected To S. F. Trade Directorate

San Francisco, Dec. 28. San Francisco's state 'old line' Chamber of Commerce, long recognized as one of the most conservative organizations in the United States, has established some sort of a record for itself. This week it shattered all precedents by electing W. Sturdivant, Fox West Coast's northern California division chief, to its Board of Directors.

Sturdivant becomes the first representative of the motion picture or theatrical industry to be accorded such recognition.

## 'Tokyo,' 'Desert Song' For WB's Jan. Release

Warner Bros. is continuing its policy of selling two pictures each month, with no more than this number scheduled for January, but they are spaced so far apart on availability that they both barely fall into the same month.

While "Destination Tokyo" will go on general release Saturday (1), the other, "The Desert Song," will not be made available until Jan. 20.

## McDonnell Leaves Col.

Hollywood, Dec. 28. H. A. McDonnell has resigned as Columbia studio manager. He had been with the company for 10 years.

## RUSSEL CROUSE

gives out with some

## 'Inside Stuff On How Not to Collaborate On a Play'

One of the features of the  
38th Anniversary Edition of

## VARIETY

(Post-War Show Business  
Issue)

## OUT NEXT WEEK

## Studio Flacks Ask 15% Hike

Hollywood, Dec. 28.

Members of the Screen Publicists Guild voted to demand a salary hike of 15%, starting Jan. 15, to replace the old two-year agreement with the studios, which expires on that date.

In addition to the wage increase, the flacks ask a one-week vacation after six months of employment and two weeks after one year; six days' sick leave for the first half year and one day per month thereafter; and, after that period, time and a half for all state and national holidays, and severance pay up to five weeks.

## UA PRODUCT LINEUP HEAVIEST IN 10 YEARS

Hollywood, Dec. 28. Heaviest lineup of product in 10 years is faced by United Artists, with five features ready for release, three in the editing rooms, five before the cameras and six more slated to start shooting within three weeks. Completed are "The Bridge of San Luis Rey," "Three Russian Girls," "Woman of the Town," "Voice in the Wind" and "Jack London."

In cutting rooms are "It Happened Tomorrow," "Timber" and "Knickerbocker Holiday." In work are "Since You Went Away," "Song of the Open Road," "40 Thieves," "Up in Mabel's Room" and "Strange Confession." Scripted and ready for accumulation are "The Hairy Ape," "Sensations of 1944," "Tomorrow the World," "Here is Your War," "So Little Time" and "Double Furlough." Features by other contributing producers will keep the U. A. organization at top activity for months to come.

## Col.'s 1st Quarter Net \$482,000—312G Last Yr.

Columbia Pictures' net profit for the first 13 weeks of its present fiscal year ended last Sept. 25 totaled \$482,000, as against \$12,000 in comparable period a year ago.

Operating profit amounted to \$1,945,000, as compared with \$1,088,000 in corresponding quarter in previous fiscal year. Columbia's estimated provision for Federal income tax amounted to \$1,063,000, as against \$877,000 a year ago.

## Recording 'World'

Hollywood, Dec. 28. Wendell Wilkie's book, "One World" will be given a recorded treatment supervised by Bill Backer of 20th-Fox before it is patented for film script.

This method of streamlining newsworthy or important stories is follows the precedent set by Darryl F. Zanuck in his treatment of "Wilson." Filming of "One World" is slated to start in February.

## WHERE MORE COIN IS BEING SPENT

Major company production executives estimate that increased production costs, calculated around 25% higher than at any time during the past two years, are reflected only in part in improved values.

Estimated by top executives that 2 to 3 \$200,000 in the cost of top-budget films is due to slower process of production due to labor, talent and material shortages. This condition, due to wartime limitations, is considered likely to continue for the duration.

Thus, it is pointed out, that where \$250,000 negative represents possibly \$250,000 more in story and production values, another \$250,000 which is spent in production currently which could be saved in similar times, does not show on the screen. Figured that some \$25,000,000 will be spent this year in production will not be reflected in added screen values.

A survey of production cost sheets confirms some 10 top-budget pictures being made up by one major company shows that budgets have been exceeded by from \$200,000 to \$400,000 in each instance.

In case of most high budgeters it has become increasingly difficult to estimate costs in advance.

In a number of specific instances pictures budgeted at from \$150,000 to \$2,000,000 have already exceeded appropriations by from \$300,000 to \$500,000, with negatives not yet completed.

No reduction in cost of film production is foreseen in the near future.

## AL LIGHTMAN EAST EN ROUTE TO LONDON

Hollywood, Dec. 28. After several delays, Al Lightman hailed east today (Tuesday), planning to hop to London for meeting with J. Arthur Rank who controls the Gaumont-British circuit in which Metro and 20th-Fox have 49% interest.

J. Robert Rubin, legatissimo of London, will follow later to help Lightman straighten out certain slipshotted with Rank.

## Extras Peeved for No Singing Payoff at RKO

Hollywood, Dec. 28. Extras are miffed over the failure of the Screen Artists Guild to force payment of \$25 a day at RKO for singing in "Marine Raiders." The extras contend that they are entitled to a minimum for actors required to speak lines and that should hold for humming, singing or yodeling.

## Joan to Stromberg?

Hollywood, Dec. 28. Hunt Stromberg is talking a new production deal with Joan Hartman, former aide to Alfred Hitchcock.

She recently left Universal where she produced "Phantom Lady."

## NATHAN D. GOLDEN

(Chief of the Motion Picture Unit,  
Bureau of Foreign and Domestic  
Commerce, of the U. S.)

(Dept. of Commerce),  
proponent on the future of  
International Film Business

In the

38th Anniversary Number of

## VARIETY

(Post-War Show Business  
Issue)

## OUT NEXT WEEK

## Par's Reported \$21,000,000 for 30 Pictures on 1943-44 Prod. Schedule

## HOWARD DIETZ'S

Letter to His Son, John, isn't just about the kid's poor school marks (which he touches on, incidentally) but has remarks to make about

## PIX MERCHANDISING

An Editorial Feature of

## VARIETY'S

38th Anniversary Number

(Post-War Show Business  
Edition)

## OUT NEXT WEEK

## Distributors Probe % 'Gyp' By Exhibs

Attorneys representing major film companies met last week at the Astor hotel, N. Y., to discuss ways and means of handling the reported losses in percentage payments from exhibitors in various parts of the country.

Sales executives from the majors met in the previous week under the auspices of the Copyright Protection Bureau, when complaints were aired that millions of dollars in rental were being lost annually through underpayments on percentage contracts.

## SEVEN INDIES SHARING STUDIO WITH GOLDWYN

Hollywood, Dec. 28. Independent production on the Samuel Goldwyn lot reaches its peak with seven companies retreating space to Goldwyn's own activities.

Seven renting outfits are Cagney Productions, Samuel Bronston, Inc., Manhattan Productions, Jules Levy Productions, International Pictures, Producers Corp. of America and Anglo Productions.

## White Elephant Par, Omaha, over the Top

Omaha, Dec. 28. Biggest year since the palmy days of the late '20s and early '30s in Omaha theaters. For the first time in 15 years the Paramount, which has been a white elephant since opening, was unlocked tentatively and with a policy of top pictures, has been turned to the best business in town.

The theatre, which always seemed to have two strikes on it, is on the fringe of the business district, up a hill and not easy to reach, but, but has been a white elephant in town, they are packing the house.

## M-G Tradeshows 'Joe'

'B'way Rhythm' Jan. 17 Metro will head tradeshows of "A Guy Named Joe" and "Broadway Rhythm" in all exchange centers Jan. 17.

Pix pictures will go into Metro's second block of 12 this season.

## Not Okay for Sound

Hollywood, Dec. 28. Boaring airplane motors in San Fernando Valley are causing odd delays in exterior production at the Warners and Universal studios on the Columbia ranch, situated near training fields.

Warners reports numerous halts in exterior dialog, some lasting as long as three hours at a stretch.

Understood that Paramount will spend from \$21,000,000 to \$22,000,000 for the 30 or 31 pictures it's making for the 1943-44 production season, under a schedule which has been under discussion by company heads long since.

While some of the Paramount negatives such as "Lady in the Dark," "Frenchman's Creek" and "Story of Dr. Wassell" have been brought in at very high figures ("Lady" at near \$3,000,000; "Creek" around \$3,500,000), company heads have reportedly managed to round out the schedule at a more comfortable average figure.

Reported that Paramount per picture cost will run around \$700,000 to \$750,000, the Thomas-Pine unit and the Henry Aldrich series reducing the average negative cost appreciably.

Bulk of Par output continues in the B and C category, however, with some top product recently given even larger budgets than last year.

## H'wood Lensers In Big Brackets

Hollywood, Dec. 27. Bonanza days are here for top cameramen now that all studios are hiring their big pictures. Many lensers are refusing deals up to \$1,000 weekly due to talk they will be included in package deals and rate recognition accorded star directors and directors in main billing.

For first time agents are trying up front line cinematographers and studios are frantically trying to hold their first cameramen. In explaining the situation, top cameramen say: "Studios have been proceeding with considerable caution to get their stars beautifully photographed, especially in view of the fact that few new ones are being developed. Then, when public demand for glamour improves a considerable difficulty upon producers and technical crafts to maintain photographic standards. These characters which change as years go by. Great trend toward color presents new problems."

## VARIETY

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Happy New Year

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# "IN THE BEST WA

Film Daily says there is no mistaking the destination of "Destination Tokyo".

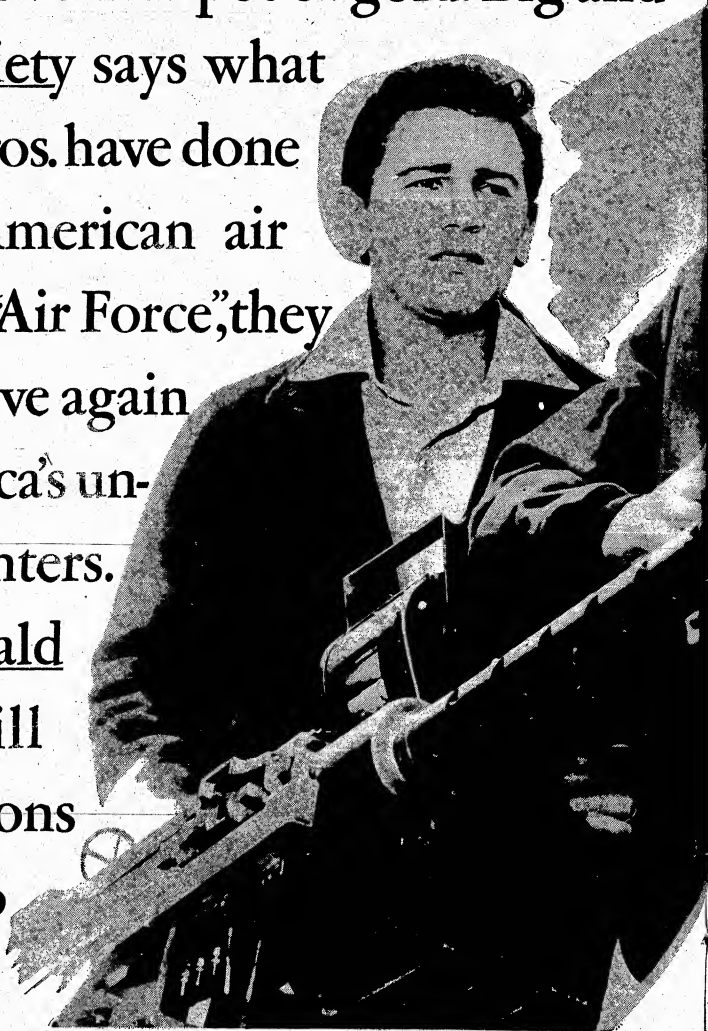
It's the proverbial pot of gold! Big and solid! Variety says what

Warner Bros. have done for the American air heroes in "Air Force", they here achieve again

for America's under-sea fighters.

M. P. Herald

says it will keep patrons coming to the b.o.!



# RNER TRADITION"

FILM DAILY

Hollywood Reporter says it is a truly chartered dead-center smash! A thriller of thrillers! . . . Daily Variety says it scales the heights of suspense and is packed with action to the hilt!



## CARY GRANT

as Captain of 'The Copperfin'

## JOHN GARFIELD

as Wolf, Torpedoman 1st Class, in

# DESTINATION TOKYO

with DANE CLARK · ROBERT HUTTON · WARNER ANDERSON · ALAN HALE · JOHN RIDGELY · WILLIAM PRINCE  
Produced by JERRY WALD

Directed by DELMER DAVES Screen Play by Delmer Daves and Albert Maltz • From an Original Story by Steve Fisher • Music by Frank Waxman

Our Two Big Jobs in January: Fourth War Loan and March of Dimes



# WARNER BROS.' TRADE SHOWINGS OF "THE DESERT SONG"

IN TECHNICOLOR

*Starring*

## DENNIS MORGAN • IRENE MANNING

CITY	PLACE OF SHOWING	ADDRESS	DAY and DATE	TIME
Albany	Warner Screening Room	79 N. Pearl St.	Mon. 1/3	12:30 P.M.
Atlanta	RKO Screening Room	191 Walton St. N.W.	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
Boston	RKO Screening Room	122 Arlington St.	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
Buffalo	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	290 Franklin St.	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
Charlotte	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	308 S. Church St.	Mon. 1/3	10:00 A.M.
Chicago	Warner Screening Room	1307 So. Wabash Ave.	Mon. 1/3	1:30 P.M.
Cincinnati	RKO Screening Room	Palace Th. Bldg. E. 6th	Mon. 1/3	7:30 P.M.
Cleveland	Warner Screening Room	2300 Payne Ave.	Mon. 1/3	8:00 P.M.
Dallas	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1803 Wood St.	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
Denver	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	2101 Champa St.	Mon. 1/3	2:30 P.M.
Des Moines	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1300 High St.	Mon. 1/3	2:30 P.M.
Detroit	Film Exchange Bldg.	2310 Cass Ave.	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
Indianapolis	Paramount Sc. Room	116 W. Michigan	Mon. 1/3	9:00 A.M.
Kansas City	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1720 Wyandotte St.	Mon. 1/3	1:30 P.M.
Los Angeles	Vitagraph Sc. Rm.	2025-S. Vermont Ave.	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
Memphis	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	151 Vance St.	Mon. 1/3	8:00 P.M.
Milwaukee	Warner Th. Sc. Rm.	212 W. Wisconsin Ave.	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
Minneapolis	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1015 Currie Ave.	Mon. 1/3	10:00 A.M.
New Haven	Warner Th. Proj. Rm.	70 College St.	Mon. 1/3	1:30 P.M.
New Orleans	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	200 S. Liberty St.	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
New York	Home Office	321 W. 44th St.	Mon. 1/3	2:30 P.M.
Oklahoma	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	10 North Lee Ave.	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
Omaha	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1502 Davenport St.	Mon. 1/3	1:00 P.M.
Philadelphia	Vine St. Sc. Rm.	1220 Vine St.	Mon. 1/3	11:00 A.M.
Pittsburgh	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1715 Blvd. of Allies	Mon. 1/3	2:30 P.M.
Portland	Star Screening Room	925 N.W. 19th Ave.	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
Salt Lake	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	216 East 1st South	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
San Francisco	Republic Sc. Rm.	221 Golden Gate Ave.	Mon. 1/3	1:30 P.M.
Seattle	Jewel Box. Sc. Rm.	2318 Second Ave.	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
St. Louis	S'penco Sc. Rm.	3143 Olive St.	Mon. 1/3	10:00 A.M.
Washington	Earle Th. Bldg.	13th & E Sts. N.W.	Mon. 1/3	10:30 A.M.









# 1943



HEAVEN CAN WAIT



CLAUDIA



WINTERTIME



SWEET ROSIE O'GRADY



GUADALCANAL DIARY



HAPPY LAND



THE GANG'S ALL HERE

(Just to Cite a Few!)

*Year in...  
Year out...  
The bell-ringer  
of the industry!*

# 1944

20<sup>th</sup>  
CENTURY-FOX

LIFEBOAT



THE LODGER



THE SULLIVANS



JANE EYRE



BUFFALO BILL



THE PURPLE HEART



THE EVE OF ST. MARK



PIN UP GIRL



*and more!*





# Rodgers Cites Industry's Better Co-op on Distributing Gov's Pix

William F. Rodgers, retiring chairman of the distribution division of the War Activities Committee, who was succeeded this past yesterday (Tues.) by Ned E. Depinet, in his report to the WAC stated that the outstanding WAC achievement during the past year has been the improvement in the distribution of Government films.

He pointed to the increase in the circulation of war films from 12,500 to 15,900 out of a total of 16,400 pigtail theatres, and noted the better understanding by everyone in the distribution field of their respective parts in this matter.

Rodgers' recommendations for future distribution activities were: (1). A complete exchange of ideas and information; many have been on the job for over a year and Rodgers felt that it would only be fair for others to take up the work. (2). Continuation of the schedule consisting of one film bulletin and one full-length short; that theatres would be prepared to schedule them properly. (3). A meeting of district chairmen to be called either dividing the country into three meeting zones or one meeting at Chicago. (4). More exchange of accurate records must be stressed, since one of the problems is not getting the proper response to requests for information. (4). Closer contact between distribution and exhibition committee chairmen. (5). Reaffirmation of cooperation from exhibitors is needed. (6). Some case circuit representation is considered efficient as against bookings for every theatre in the circuits.

"Distribution heads of all major companies were present at the WAC meeting at the Hotel Astor, N. Y. yesterday. Tribute was paid to both Rodgers and Henderson M. Richey, his assistant. Depinet was elected to the post as chairman of the WAC distribution committee declared that the first thing on his mind was the first thing on the War Loan campaign. "It's a staggering job," he said, "and the distribution end of the industry has to do much to make the goal of a 'Bond for Every Seat' possible."

Rodgers who is retiring as chairman of the distribution committee due to pressure of business, said that he regretted those men that he is retiring from the WAC. The WAC is still the industry's No. 1 job and No. 1 responsibility.

## White-Collar's Union Status to Get Airing

Hollywood, Dec. 28.—Question of union affiliation of 2,500 white-collar workers will be definitely settled in Miami next month at a meeting of the American Federation of Labor's Executive Council, when action is to be taken on an International Union for clerical workers.

As a preliminary step to organization of a National Council, a Federal Council will be set up, but AFL officials stress should be that an outfit will be international in scope. The new "Employees Guild," with 2,000 members, is being organized in the Los Angeles office and is deemed as necessary to strengthen bargaining power.

## Plenty of Camp Show Material in Folio 13

Washington, Dec. 28.—Folio 13 issued by the Army Special Services for use of men in service camps includes original sketches by H. Aday, L. L. Tom Hubbard and L. B. Burns, and a radio adaptation by Anne Barbery of Ed. Connelley's "Hale's Man Without a Gun." Also included are "Pistol" by McGee and Mabel; Burns and Allen, and other radio scripts and one by Billy M. C.

Some of the material is from the Hollywood branch of the Special Service division, and the Second Service Command. It was gathered from the Writers' War Board subcommittee on scripts for soldiers and sailors, of which Dorothy (Mrs. Richard) Rodgers is chairman.

## EVE MERRIAM'S

### 'Confession of An Anti-Nazi Moviegoer'

A Highlight in the 38th Anniversary Issue of

## VARIETY

### OUT NEXT WEEK

## F-WC Shuttles 2 In c Tax Protest

Hollywood, Dec. 28.—Fox-West Coast is shuttering two theatres for a couple of days in Redondo, beach town near L.A., as protest against the 1 per cent ad valorem recently voted by city council. Technically, the temporary shutdown is explained as a breathing spell during which houses will arrange for collection of tax, which they have been absorbing thus far but will not pass on to the public.

Meanwhile, F-WC is buying back local exhibitors' original script of ordinance. Tax is declared discriminatory and oppressive because it hits only theatres, dancehalls and fishing barges, and leaves other retail enterprises untouched.

## N.W. Indie Exhibs

### Look Upon Steffes' 'Unity Idea Coldly'

Minneapolis, Dec. 28.—The proposed plan of W. A. Steffes to unite the independent exhibitors and distributors and create greater unity within the industry is receiving the cold shoulder from many theatre owners and thus far, Steffes has not received any response from this territory's independent exhibitors and distributors.

Plan calls for the establishment of a "grievance committee" or two by Steffes' new independent exhibitors' union, organization, and involves disclosure of a theatre's records and opening of books to the committee when a complaint against film prices, percentage terms or insufficient advertising is filed with it.

The idea of throwing open books to competitors and distributors doesn't appeal to many exhibitors, boys, including some who have been squawking the loudest continuously regarding excessive competition and inability to obtain "fair" or "sufficient" adjustment of film prices over their books to any competitor, making no bones of a disinclination to reveal their operating records.

Bill Gaddis, Metro salesman and chairman of the "Fairness of Grievance Committee" John F. Friedl, Paramount circuit, president here, and Harold Field, chain owner. Several independent exhibitors have declared emphatically they never open their books to any competitor such as the Paramount circuit.

Donald Guttman, president of the National Allied Theatre exhibitor organization already in existence here, is opposed to the plan, but "his new union," which it cannot bring North Central and Midwest Allied, other exhibitors is to smash "monopoly" in the industry. He doesn't think the Steffes plan is a good idea.

In the meanwhile, however, Steffes and his cohorts are going right ahead perfecting the organization and the new "union," which it cannot bring North Central and Midwest Allied, other exhibitors is to smash "monopoly" in the industry. He doesn't think the Steffes plan is a good idea.

## Santa Crossed

St. Louis, Dec. 28.—The surprise party that attaches of Low's two houses here last week for Ben Williams, city manager, had one more surprise than was planned. The employees in the two houses shipped in and purchased \$100 worth of gifts for Williams with the intention of presenting them at a dinner party given at a downtown hotel.

A short while before the dinner got underway the committee that was to have made the presentation was discovered, and the gifts had been copied from the usher's room at Low's.

## SAG Bans Extra Work for Members

Hollywood, Dec. 28.—Board of directors of the Screen Actors Guild has decided that regular members will be allowed to do extra work accepted since August, for this reason, no further action was necessary to accept 300 temporary members in order to fill out the ranks.

The board stated that had regular meetings of the association committee been held, more than 500 permanent members would have been accepted. As it is, 500 may be cancelled out at the end of any quarter and none of them may speak into the extra hours contract. The board agreed to take up with the Producers Association the request for action that the sets be staggered so that 3,000 players will not be employed on one day and only 500 on another. Cooperation with producers also requested is seeking to place older extras on soldier calls.

## GREER AS SCHENCK AIDE IN POLIO DRIVE

Hollywood, Dec. 28.—Joseph M. Schenck will be California state chairman of the annual Polio Paralympic Fund campaign, Jan. 15-30, with Greer Garson as head of the committee representing the picture industry. Greer will be for the film studios, exclusive of theatres, is \$50,000.

Polio fund will function as national women's chairman in the campaign, and Frances Langford and Bob Hope will represent the radio division as co-chairmen.

## Detroit's War Chest Pitch 25% Over '42

An increase of 25% over last year's contribution to the War Chest by the local film industry was reported by Bill Gaddis, Metro salesman and chairman of the industry drive. With every exchange authorized this year by the home offices to make the local contribution, the War Chest drive produced \$41,000, as compared to \$32,500 last year. The industry was considerably over its quota, despite the increase in the War Chest budget. The projection for this year pointed to individual contributions and made them through the IATSE to the film industry's collection.

## U.S. Rollcall

Bill Gaddis is Albany, N. Y., Dec. 28.—Bill Gaddis, Metro salesman and father, Army. He is the first salesman drafted here since Morris J. Columbia, was taken three years ago. Cohn was released, only to be recalled after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Pittsburgh's Marching Bobby Doyle, singer with Marty Twinn, arch.

Dench and Stewart, Army. Jean Hodgson, daughter of a radio theatre, Army.

George Eden, ice skater with "Ice Fantasy," Army.

# Electrical Union Creates Strike Threat for All Hollywood Crafts; Cameramen Have their Own Ideas

## JACK LAIT

Reminiscence on

'25 YEARS AGO'

When he was head of 'Variety', L. Chicago Office

A Feature of the 38th Anniversary Number of

## VARIETY

(Post-War Show Business Edition)

### OUT NEXT WEEK

## War Vets Must Get More 'Extra' Calls

Hollywood, Dec. 28.—Protests are piling up at Central Casting for extra hours worked out of service, who complain they are not getting a fair shake on studio calls. Demands of producers and directors for younger players is making it difficult for the older players to get more than an occasional job.

Howard Philbrick, head of Central, has ordered war vets be given as many calls as possible.

## 24 More Army-Made Films Scheduled; 2 More Per Mo. Follows

Washington, Dec. 28.—Listing of 24 Army-made films for screenings to war workers has just been announced by the War Relocation Administration, War Relocation Services Division of War Dept. Public Relations, with a promise of more films each month.

Folder announces the motion picture screen has proved to be a powerful medium for bringing to the men and women of America war industry up-to-the-minute reports of the progress of this war and the battle performance of American arms and equipment. The War Department invites you to join America's topmost industrial organizations in regularly showing Army films.

Every month from now on, 20 new motion pictures will be ready for release—a new Film Communication Unit is another subject of up-to-the-minute interest to war workers.

Available pic include four of Lt. Col. Frank Capra's "The Four Big Series—Prelude to War," "The Nazi Strike," "Divide and Conquer" and "Battle of Britain," and the new "War Department Report." Most of the remainder are shorts ranging from 6-20 minutes.

Army has set up film exchanges in 300 cities to handle distribution of the films, which will be 16mm. and 35mm. sound.

## Nipping the Nasty Nips

Hollywood, Dec. 28.—Frank Merfild, indie producer, obtained Government approval of the script for "The Tanaka" and "The Japanese Intrigue" written by James Young, former newspaper correspondent in Tokyo.

Young will be associate producer on the picture, to be made for a major release, still, still undistributed.

## Loder's 'Ape' Chore

Hollywood, Dec. 28.—First (re)appearance of Joe Loder, since his exit from Warners by the "His Exile" remake of the "Ape" film, is being produced by Jules Levey, for United Artists. Alfred Santini is director, with picture rolling this week.

## Hollywood, Dec. 28.

Threat of a strike by all AFL studio crafts is hanging over Hollywood as local 40 of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers is calling for a strike vote next week, close of the 30-day cooling-off period. Claim is made that instructions from the War Labor Board are so vague as to indicate that all AFL unions may have to be included on the strike ballot. IBEW says that the instructions do not definitely limit the vote to Local 40 or even crafts in the Electrical jurisdiction, but says that members of other unions must vote. Union takes the position such an election would be a vote for membership, they are the only ones directly interested in their demands for 10% pay tilt.

Other unions have been quarrel with studios undoubtedly would vote against walkout. For that reason the IBEW attempting to get the situation clarified before a date for membership vote. Business Representative of Local 40 is in touch with WLB officials in Washington as well as the IA International. Definite vote is expected to be received this week.

Local 40 contends its members are not getting a fair shake on studio calls. It has not gotten an increase when minimum of other unions were boosted to 10% pay tilt. IBEW says the industry, especially writers and directors, who have advanced in salary.

Only exception has been the top cameramen, 85% of whom have been receiving the same salaries they were getting 25 years ago. Many of top cameramen do not want to work more than two pictures per year. It is a general feeling among lenders that they carry full responsibility of production, being a pivot point. Cameramen have developed many stage directors through their guidance and assistance, all of which has been a great help in the years of experience cameramen have from working with all types of production. Many new indie producers coming into field are ignorant of this and are bidding for cameramen on a per picture basis. Cameramen are not in production do they have. Cameramen are not in production do they have. Cameramen are not in production do they have.

Some cameramen also are insisting on guarantees they be allowed to select their own crews before they will sign new personal contracts. They are also developing into race between studios to get top cameramen under long-term contracts.

## Distribs Retain 40-Hr. Week in Dallas, Indpls.

Distributors will not be forced to adhere to the 48-hour workweek in exchanges in Dallas and Indianapolis. The two cities have added to the labor shortage list by the War Manpower Commission. The two cities will be permitted to remain at the present 40-hour workweek.

Appointments for similar exceptions in Oklahoma City, Milwaukee and St. Paul. The cities are also distributors through their one-man committee, C. J. Scollard, executive committee of the new, v. over sales for Paramount.

Previously Scollard obtained exception for the new, v. over sales for Paramount. The cities are also distributors through their one-man committee, C. J. Scollard, executive committee of the new, v. over sales for Paramount.

## Carrington Succeeds Controw As Altec Pres

C. Carrington, president of Altec Service Corp., theatres serving company, named president of the new, v. over sales for Paramount. Carrington is also president of Altec Service Corp., theatres serving company, named president of the new, v. over sales for Paramount. Carrington is also president of Altec Service Corp., theatres serving company, named president of the new, v. over sales for Paramount.



# 'BELL' TOPS 1944

*'Bell's'  
Famous Seven!*

( More Awards Than Any  
Other 1943 Production! )

- BEST DIRECTION* . . . . .
- BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS* . . . . .
- BEST PHOTOGRAPHY (Technicolor)* . . . . .
- ONE OF 5 BEST MALE STARS* . . . . .
- ONE OF 5 BEST FEMININE STARS* . . . . .
- ONE OF 5 BEST SUPPORTING ACTORS* . . . . .
- ONE OF 5 "FINDS" OF THE YEAR* . . . . .

In Film Daily's Nationwide Vote For The "FAMOUS FIVES" Of 1943, America's Film Critics Honor One Great Motion Picture Above All Others, With *Three Tops* And A Total Of *Seven Different Awards* . . . To

*Paramount's*  
**"FOR WHOM  
 THE BELL TOLLS"**

3

NOW IN  
 ITS 25th  
 WEEK ON  
 B'WAY

*Sam Wood*

*Katina Paxinou*

*Ray Rennahan*

*Gary Cooper*

*Ingrid Bergman*

*Akim Tamiroff*

*Katina Paxinou*

POLL

# Warners' Junket to New London On 'Destination Tokyo,' a 'Sub' Base 0.0.

By HAROLD M. BONE  
New London, Conn., Dec. 28.—The story is being told in New London, the naval training town where a guy with the gold braids conceals could retire at the end of a single season. Once more the Warner Bros. junket has spun the halcyon junket industry and this time the pointer stopped at the spot marked "Submarine Base, Naval Training Station." The occasion was the world premiere of the Warner's undersea opus, "Destination Tokyo." If the producers were looking for a naive reaction to the film, they certainly got it here. Comment from officers and men alike brought agreement on the fact that technical details were pretty much according to Hoyle.

As a space-grabbing stunt, WB arranged for a tour of the base by representative newspaper, trade paper and magazine writers, and the event turned out to be an educational experience for the scribblers. Session started with an elaborate lunch. Then came a fore-and-aft inspection of the craft, which was really a super aggregation of naval and submarine training tank. This is the spot where trainees learn to do a Houdini via the escape hatch of a sunken sub. It's a tough test for the lads and some fall by the wayside. Because of the stiff requirements, a large percentage of candidates never even get to first base (no pun on sub quarters).

After a glimpse of a captured Japanese man sub, group hit the administration building, where they met Commander Howard W. Gilmore, hero who won the Navy Medal of Honor. Partly observed trainees simulating actual handling of subs; saw disassembled torpedo and witnessed firing procedure of torpedo tubes. Entertainment at Submarine Base Officers Club featured a cocktail session, attended by Rear Admiral Freeland A. Dublin, Commander of Submarines, Atlantic Fleet; a display of stills snapped on sub missions; song; and showing of "Destination" at base theatre.

While it was not one of WB's biggest bait lures by any means, this one rates a bow for the interesting data presented to the visiting firm of the press. Don Gillette engineered the junket for Warner on the N. Y. end, with Alex Kronberg handling the New London scene. Commander Don Gilmore did a nice job as public relations liaison for the base.

## SISTROM'S 'O'SULLIVAN'

Hollywood, Dec. 28.—Joseph Sistrom has the producer chair on "Make Way for O'Sullivan." Miles Connolly story recently purchased by Paramount.

Currently Sistrom is filming "Undeclared Blonde" and "The Hitler Gang" and has "Girls' Town" in preparation.

## BERGMAN PARTIED

Public Relations Committee Feted Its Retiring Chairman

In place of its usual weekly meeting, the Public Relations Committee of the film industry honored Maurice Bergman, committee chairman with a Christmas party last Thursday (23). Bergman, retiring next Jan. 15, when a new PRC chairman will go into office. New chairman will have the entire 30th anniversary of the first motion picture exhibition tossed to him, since only preliminary details of campaign have been drawn up.

The PRC committee will handle all details of the film business celebration of the anniversary of the initial showing of a motion picture starting next March. Tentative plans call for institutional publicity, radio programs and other bally to observe the event.

## LEO WILL ROAR FOR M-G-M AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR

Metro is launching a campaign among field forces to ensure that the Lion appears on the screen of every theatre in the country at least once during the year.

William F. Rodgers, v.p. and general sales manager for M-G-M, has expanded to personnel that this objective is designed to develop more goodwill for Metro. It was suggested that the lion would be considered reached even if the trademark appearance was limited to the booking of a short subject or a newsworthy clip.

Branch managers, following recent meeting in Chicago, plan to concentrate on the goodwill promotion.

## Special Promotion Hypothesizes 'Old Oklahoma' in Keys

Special promotion by Republic and local managers to supplement newspaper advertising, radio spot time and billboard campaign, is helping "Oklahoma." This additional promotion has spelled added business even during the pre-Xmas lull which prevailed this year in virtually all key cities.

Recent examples of what it meant in additional boxoffice are Buffalo, N. Y., and New Haven, Conn. In the former, Gerald Westgren, publicity chief at the Lafayette, employed the tactic. In the latter, newspaper trucks, window cards and special restaurant place cards. He tied in with the theatre stars with display cards via the music department plugging tunes from the pictures.

In New Haven Jim Darby of the Paramount backed his booking with special ads in the Italian-language newspaper and Xmas News Digest. He also used special cards in hotel lobbies and spot announcements on radio station WELI.

## LAURENCE SCHWAB

has written humorous pieces  
'What—No Cheesecake!'

An editorial feature of the  
38th Anniversary Edition of

## VARIETY

(Post-Har-Shore-Business  
Number)

## OUT NEXT WEEK

## Tote-Your-Own

Continued from page 1

been met with the pointed suggestion that customers bring their own liquor, inasmuch as retailers don't expect to have much on hand.

New Year's Eve in U. S. cities promises to be the biggest even despite winter shortages of liquor, etc. Throughout the land spots report larger reservation lists than last year, many being booked solid for the Eve's weeks ago.

## Chi's 'Eve' Charges

"Chicago," Dec. 28.—Despite an unexpected demand for New Year's Eve reservations, many night spots are charging even less than they did last year. Others are getting the highest prices allowable. Camella Boulevard, near 12th St., is charging at \$15 per person. Empire Room, Palmer House, and Mayfair Room, Waukegan, are next at \$12.

Others are Walnut Room, Bismarck hotel, 110 E. Chicago, Blackhawk, 7520, Chicago, and the 100 E. 75th Boulevard Room, Stevens hotel, which makes its debut New Year's Eve with Duke Ellington's orchestra, 110, Edgewater Beach hotel, 910, Panther Room, Sherman hotel, 65-80, 68 Chicago, Latin Quarter, 665-10, 30, according to location; Rio Canana, \$5 cover charge.

Desire liquor spots are charging \$2.50 to \$5 and many have no cover or minimum.

## Reopening for the Big Kill

In N. Y., the bonanza promises to help places like the Polka Berge which closed down because of financial difficulties, but reopened just in time to get its cut of the melon. The Polka opened last night (28) after posting a one-week pay guarantee with AGVA.

Desire liquor shortages, and absence of noisemakers in many night clubs, the New Year's celebration is figured to be one of the wettest as well as noisiest in years. Major cities are drawing upon their liquor reserves to supply the evening's demand and are said to be in good luck as far as catering to needs of celebrants.

However, some of the tonier hotel dining rooms and restaurants will shutter at 10 p.m. to conserve spirit stocks. About half the membership of the Society of Restaurant Owners will close after the dinner hour, according to Paul Henkel, president. They figure the most of the late night would be ordering scarce trays, bourbons and scotches but little of the expensive priced champagne and wines, and consequently will have little left to take care of their regular customers after the holiday. Early closing, Henkel explained, is all the more necessary as later absence of liquor will seriously interfere with food-business.

## Hoodlumism

Continued from page 4

fire. The theatres were closed at the time the blaze struck.

## Police Chief, 78, Confesses

Columbia, Mich., Dec. 28.—Say what you like about juvenile delinquency and kid hoodlums, but it can go to the other extreme. A 78-year-old police chief from the town of Columbia, Mich., has just confessed to State authorities that he was the one who set the fires which destroyed the Long theatre in the town for a \$40,000 loss.

State investigators, checking into five mysterious fires in the town in the past two years, had questioned the chief's kids before the town police chief admitted that he was the arsonist and set the fires for a little excitement.

# Metro-Slates 5-Day N. Y. Meeting Next Week: Other Theatre-Exchange Briefs

Ways and means of meeting the present emergency, methods for the elimination of any unnecessary delay in the course of daily operations that might tend to increase efficiency will be discussed at a five-day meeting of Metro traveling auditors and bookers, as well as studio executives, on Monday (31), Charles K. Stern, vice president in charge of exchange business, for Lewis and Alan F. Cummings, in charge of exchange operations, will preside at sessions. Harold J. Cleary of the Lowie theatre department will also attend to discuss theatre operations.

Various others from the Metro line will sit in with the Metro Film Corp., the Canadian subsidiary through which Metro distributes, will be represented by James E. Wood, branch auditor for that organization.

Henry Nathanson, general manager of Regal Films, Ltd., Metro distributor subsidiary in Canada, is in New York from Toronto for two-day conferences with William F. Rodgers, general Metro sales manager.

## Other Realignments

Three Metro exchange zones formerly comprising the district headed by Harris P. Wolberg, who recently resigned, will be split between two other districts.

Cincinnati and Indianapolis territories will be added to the zone handled by John P. Byrne, now in charge of Buffalo, Rochester and Cleveland, while St. Louis, which Wolberg had, will be added to the district under the supervision of Burton Bissell, Jr., which now handles Kansas City, Oklahoma City and Dallas.

## Wexo's 11-Theatre Division

E. L. Alperson, general manager of Wexo, Inc., last week took over Sigurd Wexo manager of the Midway, Forest Hills, to RKO Theatre district under the supervision of Burton Bissell, Jr., which now handles Kansas City, Oklahoma City and Dallas.

## Bud Gray Goes to Los

Bud Gray, publicist, Dec. 28.—RKO, joined Par as district adviser, after working out of Atlanta. State theatre in Wilkinsburg division.

broken into and \$500 taken from the safe. Sam Ehrlich, checking supervisor for WB until recently, resigned and returned to home in Washington.

## Buermelle's Promotion

R. Buermelle has been appointed Detroit office manager for United Artists. He succeeds Ralph Forman.

## Chisholm to Capital

Howard Chisholm, Paramount's Detroit office manager, has been transferred to Washington, D. C.

## Buffalo Variety, R.C.

Buffalo, Dec. 28.—Variety Club of Buffalo, Tent 7, selected Stanley C. Kozanowski of the Rivoli Chief Barker. Others elected were David Michaels, Palestine; Ira Cohen, 20th Fox, asst. chief; Charles Levine, Franks, treasurer; and Murray Whitman, sec. National delegates are Elmer F. Lux and Ralph Maw with Constantine J. Buel and Whitman as alternates. Robert P. Murphy represents Buffalo on the national directorate.

## Two Coast Deals

Los Angeles, Dec. 28.—Standard Theatre Co. has leased the Rialto theatre in downtown Los Angeles from the Fay Securities Co. for \$30,000.

Grover Smith, operator of four theatres, became president of the York theatre from George Alderman.

## Film Classics Package

Twin comb of "Hara Kari" and "The Sign of the Cross" were booked from Film Classics, indie distributor, by N.Y. Metropolitan theatre, J. Paul.

Pair of films start in about 60 N. Y. and Brooklyn houses starting on Jan. 1.

## Wright Goes to Cleve

John C. Wright, Paramount salesman in Cleveland office, goes to Cincinnati to replace William Twigg.

## Brands Get Another B-Way House

With acquisition of the Abbey, N. Y., renamed Manhattan, Brandt Bros. become operators of four Broadway houses, others being Globe, Central and New York.

Brandt will play releases from the Manhattan, with the first attraction "Tomorrow Night's Dream," which opened at the house yesterday (Tuesday) at pop scale.

# New York Theatres

Beginning Friday, Dec. 31

CARY GRANT  
JOHN GARFIELD

In Warner Bros. Bill

"DESTINATION TOKYO"

IN PERSON

CHARLIE BARNET & Ore

Also Ella Mae Morse

Lowie, Hite & Stanley

Doors open STRAND 8:15  
8 A.M.



LEWIS' THEATRE  
Tours, Oct. 30  
On Grant  
Humphrey Bogart  
"SAHARA"

In Person  
Patricia Marlow  
Marion & Flander  
Joan Lincoln  
Eric Blinn

SAUEL GOLDWYN'S

THE NORTH STAR

NEW VICTORIA - RKO PALACE

B'WAY & 45TH B'WAY & 47th

Outstanding performances, splendid orchestra  
Closes 1:30 A.M. Nightingale show  
very tight, both theatres.

"Curie" for Troops

Some 31 16-mm prints of "Madame Curie" have been shipped overseas to combat zones.

Many servicemen saw the picture before Christmas while others will see it by New Year's.

25th  
WEEK!

Paramount's  
"FOR WHOM  
THE BELL TOLLS"

Continuous Performances from 12:30 a.m.

RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

ON THE SCREEN  
Spencer Tracy  
Irene Dunne  
in "A GUY  
NAMED JOE"

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

"MME. CURIE"

Spectacular Stage Productions

MICHAEL TODD presents

ETHEL MERNAN for boys

SOMETHING TO DO

COLE PORTER  
ALVIN, Mace & Selt

ALVIN, Mace & Selt

LAURENCE DOLBY

in "RIDING HIGH"

in TECHNICOLOR

TOMMY DONOVAN and Rand

PARAMOUNT Times Square

"McGuire, your hiding his Wheaties before the performance is the greatest practical joke of my year."

Dire things can happen when people are bereft of their Wheaties. Children move. Husbands look oddly at wives. Domestic bliss is

blissed. No less catastrophic for being easily avoidable (grocers are ready, willing and able to hand over the Wheaties).



*a guy named* **SANTA CLAUS** presents



*a guy named* **SPENCER TRACY**



*a gal named* **IRENE DUNNE**

**IN VICTOR FLEMING'S PRODUCTION  
OF THE M-G-MARVELOUS ROMANCE**

**"a Guy Named Joe"**

**with a cast named Terrific:**

Van Johnson • Ward Bond • James Gleason • Lionel Barrymore • Barry Nelson • Esther Williams  
Screen Play by Dalton Trumbo • Adaptation by Frederick Hazlitt Brennan • Directed by VICTOR FLEMING  
Produced by EVERETT RISKIN • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

**It's in M-G-M's "Vitamin 12" Group!**

"Our Two Big Jobs in January:  
Fourth War Loan and March of Dimes"







# THEATRE

## Look Out, Red

If Waite Hoyt, former Yankee pitcher, is coming back, as reported, to broadcast Giant and Yankee games next summer it may well be that Red Barber, the Dodgers' aerial-Boswell, will have something more to worry about.

Now this isn't written in any disparaging vein regarding the Red-head. In most baseball circles Red Barber is the top baseball game caller of 'em all. Nor will there be any argument about that here. It's just that this Hoyt guy, when he talks about baseball, isn't bad either. That was apparent a while back when he was doing one of those quickies for a New York station, a five-minute follow-up on the Dodger games which also permitted him time for a brief anecdote or two.

It was true, then, and maybe it is now, that Hoyt didn't know all the words. But he has been out there on that mound. That's his running start and it's a big one. It's been on that hill when he was in a jam, when his hands were damp and he was tired. Yeah, Hoyt has been there. And he knows what it's like to have been there. It makes a difference. That's what Barber is going to be up against if Hoyt comes back. It should make Barber all the keener. Certainly New York has radio room for both of them.

But getting back to that "difference." The difference of actually having been in there. It also goes for football.

Maybe few recall it, but back in '33 Benny Friedman broadcast the Princeton-Columbia game from Palmer Stadium. And Benny is another of those guys who have been in there. Will Michigan ever forget him?

So '33 was the year that Columbia went to the Rose Bowl and took Stanford. Remember? But this autumnal day, the day we're talking about, Columbia was behind 20 to 0 at the half. It never did score, and Princeton later put across two more touchdowns which the officials wouldn't allow. Well, it was the final score. Exactly what would have happened to Stanford that New Year's if Princeton, instead of Columbia, had gone to the Coast is something which to this day confuses this day's writer. It was, Columbia beat Stanford 7 to 6 and 100,000 Columbia alumni don't believe it yet—and that was 10 years ago.

Anyway, Friedman broadcast this '33 Columbia-Princeton key October game. An important one it was for both teams. And Friedman is another guy who, perhaps, doesn't know all the words. But he knows the music—and this type writer will lay its ribbon on the line that this particular football game broadcast is still the best that New York has ever heard called over the air.

## Cafe Society Package Show

Cafe Society Uptown and Cafe Society Downtown (N. Y. alicies) performers are being peddled in a package show with that name, directed by Fritz Block. Asking price reportedly is \$8,000. Show was auditioned Monday (27), with Hazel Scott, Teddy Wilson, Georgia Gibbs and John Sebastian, from Barney Josephson's uptown and downtown N. Y. alicies, included in the lineup.

Paul Martin, N. Y. World-Telitory and restaurant columnist, emcee.

## Anna Erskine, Replaced On 'Met Auditions,' Gets Salary for Full Season

Anna Erskine, continuity writer of "Metropolitan Auditions" on the A since its start eight years ago, after Sherwin-Williams paint, has been replaced by Len Wilson, Georgia Gibbs and John Sebastian, from Barney Josephson's uptown and downtown N. Y. alicies, included in the lineup.

A though she no longer has the assignment, Miss Erskine will be paid for the balance of the season, according to reports. "Met" is the Warlock of Letter Agency (that was her ref. She had already completed scripts to next spring. "Met" directs the "Auditions" series. The new Guy Lombardo show Sunday nights on the Blue, starts Jan. 14, for Chelsea cigars, will have Carl Manning and Phil Davis as continuity writers and George Lowther as director. W. & L. is also the agency on it.

## BETHLEHEM STEEL SEEKS 1-HR. SHOW

Bethlehem Steel is reported dickering for a radio show after the first of the year. Company found five-minute spots effective for "help wanted" and on Friday (28) is doing a roundup for the year, 1:30-p.m. on the Blue.

Reported the steel company is anxious for a half-hour one, which now talks in progress with Blue net execs.

## 'OPEN DOOR' ALSO TO GET NEW DIRECTOR

Paul Stewart takes over direction of 'The Open Door,' effective Jan. 3, succeeding Fred Wehe. The Sandra Michael serial moves on that date from its present 10:15-10:30 a.m. spot on WFAP-NBC to 3:15-3:30 p.m. on WABC-CBS. Standard Brands is the sponsor and Bates the agency.

Until he went to the Coast several months ago on a Sealsack contract, Axel Grunberg directed "Door." The show is Stewart's first regular network directing assignment in several seasons. In the meantime, he has been acting in radio, legit and films.

## Your Best Salesman In All Markets—

## IN ALL MARKETS—

## Present and Future

OUT NEXT WEEK (January 5, 1944)

## 38th ANNIVERSARY VARIETY POST-WAR SHOW BUSINESS NUMBER

NEW YORK 19, 154 W. 46th St. HOLLYWOOD 28, 1708 No. Vine St. CHICAGO 1, 54 W. Randolph St. LONDON 8, St. Martin's Pl.

## AGAIN LEADING NIGHTTIME AGCY.

BY GEORGE ROSEN

J. Walter Thompson goes into 1944 as the No. 1 agency in the nighttime radio. It's the first time since 1936 that the agency has regained its former status, having yielded to Young & Rubicam in the intervening years.

Acquisition in recent weeks of such accounts as Ford Motor Co., formerly held by the Mason agency, and Vitamins vitamins, switched from B.B.D. & O., helped pave the way for the Thompson agency's comeback, with an accumulation of p.m. network business of eight hours and 35 minutes, as compared with eight hours and 15 minutes for Y. & R. Latter figure includes the Goodyear-Walter Pidgeon half-hour show over CBS which doesn't bow in until Jan. 30. Young & Rubicam would have retained its edge by 10 minutes had the Elgin Co., which dropped its "Man Behind the Gun" program on Dec. 16, decided to stay off the air. However, the watch company has announced it's sponsoring the "New Wolf" program, through Thompson, starting next month.

In contrast to the 20-minute margin which Thompson will hold when the new Ford series get underway next month, and the Frank Sinatra-Vitamins program debut on the Coast on Jan. 5, Y. & R. accounts were preeminent in the nighttime network field for seven years before for a stretch of a few years were far out in front. However, earlier in the year the Thompson comeback began to manifest itself when the agency fell heir to such accounts as the RCA Hour, Elgin and an additional half-hour from Old Gold with Bob Crosby.

Thompson, with total billings now reported in the neighborhood of \$45,000,000, will have the following roster as the additional January programs get under way: Old Gold-Bob Crosby (NBC), 30 minutes; Wrigley-American in the Air (CBS), 30 minutes; Chase-Santborn (NBC), 30 minutes; J. B. Williams-William L. Shirer (CBS), 30 minutes; Lux Radio Theatre (CBS).

(Continued on page 28)

## Time, Chet La Roche Acquire Interest In Blue; Woods, Kobak Also Buy In

### Is It The Writers?

Sure the pace of the radio comedy shows this season is fast, but can it be the writers? That's not taking anything away from the comics, but the writers are playing a big, important part.

And this may also be a war circumstance—the fact that several new writers have acquired a birth in radio. Many established scribes are now in service, or weaned away from radio by pictures. The opening was thus at hand for new writers who had been knocking at radio's door for a long time.

Sure the comedy pace is fast—and thanks to new spirit, new writing slants.

One thing is sure. Radio comedians do get an exaggerated slant of their own comedy when playing army comics. Also careless and off their timing. This also holds true for stage comedians, many of whom have learned to their regret that the gag that gets howls from the GI's more often than not draws a silence from civilians.

## Gracie Fields Going Off Air

Gracie Fields is going off the air at least temporarily, when she winds up her current Pall Mall spot Jan. 15, after expressing her dissatisfaction with her five-times-a-week 15-minute Mutual shot. Spot will be taken by Robert B. Bellie II or Not' Ripley.

Miss Fields' radio plans are indefinite, although one sponsor is reportedly interested in a half-hour period at a \$3,000 weekly salary. Comedienne has some film commitments which she'll complete before she goes on the air again.

Time, Inc., and Chester LaRoche have acquired stock interests in the Blue. Time president, has been elected to the Blue board of directors, and LaRoche becomes chairman of the executive committee and a member of board.

Mark Woods, Time's president, and Edgar Kobak, executive vice-president and general manager, also acquire shares in the network, with Edward J. Noble, who recently purchased the entire stock of the company from RCA, retaining financial control and remaining board chairman. The Time and LaRoche shares of stock will be 12½% each, while the size of the Woods and Kobak purchases are not revealed, but are believed to be considerably smaller.

LaRoche, who was a board member of the Young & Rubicam agency, was organizer and it current head of the War Advertising Council. Because of his war activities, his duties with the Blue will be limited for the present. He is currently ill on the Coast and is not expected east for some time. LaRoche's entry into the Blue executive ranks was announced by "Variety" several months ago, but were denied by the company at that time.

According to Noble, he intends retaining his present holdings of Blue stock for the immediate period, but may ultimately offer shares to other company officials, owners of affiliated stations and possibly the public. Such shares would be offered by him, not by the present stockholders, he indicates.

Purchase of an interest in the Blue practically expands the Time, Inc., interest in radio. The mag publishing firm already owns a 10% stake in indie station WQXR, New York, and is represented on the Board of Directors of WABC-NBC and by several local programs.

## Coronet Mag's Show on Blue

Coronet Magazine will sponsor the Monday-through-Friday 9:35 to 10 p.m. spot on 78 stations of the Blue network starting Jan. 24. Format of the program, according to present plans, will be a quiz show, although this is subject to change. Schwimmer & Scott, Chicago, is the agency on the account.

Saturday Evening Post had been after the spot for several weeks, but the deal fell through when Coronet took up its prior option on the time. Blue salesmen this week are endeavoring to line up another time schedule for weekly max, but nothing definite has been set to date. Sateval, through Aveyard & McFarland agency, is still interested in buying Blue time for a five-minute five-week spot to dramatize the best stories appearing in the Post on sale that week.

## ONE TOUCH OF MCCLINTOCK MBS Prexy Takes a 25-Minute Ribbing in Recorded Xmas Show

Miller McClintock has a permanent record of a ribbing handed him by MBS staffers. Under the title of "One Touch of McClintock," a 25-minute show was recorded and played at the MBS Christmas party in N. Y., Friday (24) and played on the Blue with net personnel that it'll get a reprise at a WOR party in N. Y. today (Wed.).

Leslie Gottlieb, MBS publicity chief, scripted the show. Role of McClintock was given a professional touch by Arthur Weiss, the radio actor, Fritz Block directed.

Nesbitt's New One Chesterfield auditioned John Nesbitt last week in a half-hour show. No deal set yet. Stim built around a patriotic angle.

## Merivale, Anna Neagle, Skelton On NBC-BBC 'Spotlight' Preem Jan. 1

The NBC-BBC cooperative series of international goodwill exchange programs, 'Atlantic Spotlight,' debuts New Year's Day at 12:30 p.m. with Philip Merivale, Red Skelton and Anna Neagle topping the talent roster. Miss Neagle will, in the half-hour show with Merivale as m.c. in the U.S. Skelton will be picked up from the Coast.

Domestic fare spotted by NBC for the preem includes Brig. Gen. William R. Arnold, chief of Army chaplains, and the Capt. Glenn Miller G.I. band. Gen. Arnold will be based on President Roosevelt's proclamation naming New Year's Day an occasion for prayer by Americans. Miss Neagle, from London, will sing 'My British Buddy' and 'Vanessa Buddy,' songs specially written by Irving Berlin for the English version of 'This Is the Army' which is duplicating its American success. Irving Berlin was originally sketched to appear with Miss Neagle from London.

Writer for domestic portion is Gerald Hoffman, who for Mansfield directing, London writing assignment is being handled by Tom Gresham, with Tom-Ronald directed.

Series is designed to better acquaint British and American listeners with characteristics and entertainment habits of the two nations.

### WESLEY MYKEE JOINS Y.&R. PROD. STAFF

Wesley McKee, former straw hat theatre director, has joined the radio production staff of the Young & Rubicam agency.

He has not yet been given a regular assignment by Harry Ackerman, production director.

### BLUE'S '43 TOP TUNES AIRER NEW YR.'S EVE

The Blue network will air a special program on New Year's Eve (7-12:30 p.m.) featuring the top tunes of 1943 as selected by Dick Charles, staff conductor and composer. Session will be saluted by Paul Caville of the net's 'Chamber Society of Lower Basin Street.' Jean Collins and Paul D'Arno will do the vocal. Charles' selections for the '43 accolades are: 'All or Nothing,' 'As Time Goes By,' 'Comin' in on a Wing,' 'Don't Get Around Much Anymore,' 'In My Arms,' 'Paper Doll,' 'People,' 'Will Say,' 'Pistol Packin' Mama,' 'Put Your Arms Around Me,' 'Sunday, Monday, or Always,' 'You'll Never Know' and 'Wait for Me, Mary.'

### Kellogg Taking Over

#### Full 'Sard' Sponsorship

Skinner & Eddy (Minute Man) is giving up sponsorship of the half of the 'Breakfast at Saratoga' program on WJZ-Blue as of the end of January. Kellogg, who now has the second half of the Tom Breennan daytime comedy-quiz, will take over sponsorship of the entire program. Kellogg is the agency for S. & E. and Kenyon & Eckhard for Kellogg's 'Breakfast' is heard 11-11:30 a.m. Monday-through-Friday.

### WGY Broadcast Donors

Schenectady, Dec. 28. Staff of WGY made its second visit last week to the Schenectady Blood Bank to donate pints of blood. G. station has broadcast a number of programs and announcements on behalf of the plasma.

### WMAA N.Y., Spending \$10,000 for Xmas Show to Airwave GI Gals

One of the most ambitious special programs ever staged by WMAA, N.Y., is being broadcast on New Year's Eve. The show, which will feature a cast of 100, is being produced by the station's own talent. It is a special Christmas program for the GI boys in the service. The show will be broadcast on New Year's Eve, 12-12:30 a.m. It is a special Christmas program for the GI boys in the service. The show will be broadcast on New Year's Eve, 12-12:30 a.m. It is a special Christmas program for the GI boys in the service.

### ALAN LIPSCOTT

Discusses

### 'Post-Warriors In Gaiety'

as only a professional radio pugwilder can do it

An Editorial Feature of

VARIETY's

8th Anniversary Number

### Post-War Show Business Edition

### WESTINGHOUSE STILL MULLS NEW AGENCY

Westinghouse is still mulling several agencies to take over its radio business, with the expectation Jan. 1 of its pact with Young & Rubicam. Despite the lapse, the company this week renewed for another 32 weeks the John Charles Thomas-Westinghouse show heard Sundays from 2:30 to 3:30 a.m. over the NBC network. The program, besides the concert singer, features John Neill as announcer and narrator, Victor Young's orchestra and a choir.

### Alice Smart (OWI) Shift To Overseas Radio Div.

Alice Smart, production assistant in the New York office of the domestic radio branch of the Office of War Information, has shifted to the overseas radio division and is awaiting orders to leave for duty in London. She has completed instructions at the OWI training center on Long Island and has received her passport.

### WMAA N.Y., Spending \$10,000 for Xmas Show to Airwave GI Gals

One of the most ambitious special programs ever staged by WMAA, N.Y., is being broadcast on New Year's Eve. The show, which will feature a cast of 100, is being produced by the station's own talent. It is a special Christmas program for the GI boys in the service. The show will be broadcast on New Year's Eve, 12-12:30 a.m. It is a special Christmas program for the GI boys in the service.

### TIDINGS...

This Christmas WMAA came forth with a present, a precedent and a promise... The present gave New York an astounding five-hour round-the-world broadcast of special greetings from local servicemen in action overseas...

The precedent created a distinguished new standard for independent broadcasting, standard for an aggressive station can't accomplish alone...

The promise assured New Yorkers that this is merely the beginning of a great era in WMAA showmanship...

Watch the pacemaker. WMAA is on its way!

FIRST IN SHOWMANSHIP

WMAA TO Bring Yul From City's Soldiers

HEARD AND OVERHEARD

From the War Zone

RADIO DAILY

WMAA 5-Hour Show To Air New Yorkers Now Overseas

WMAA's Five-Hour Show

## What People Will Say

Blue Network Research Dept. pulled an Oscar Hammettstein in sending an unusual Christmas greeting to the NBC researchers last week. It was in the nature of a parody on the pop tune, 'People Will Say We're In Love,' and was written by Rose E. Walsh of the Blue research dept.

Here's the Yuletide greeting the NBC boys found awaiting them:

Don't throw accounts at us  
Don't give us every show  
Don't try to help us grow  
People will say we're in love.

Don't show us all your meeps  
Don't give us Kay-O-Ree  
Don't dare to dial Jay-Zee  
People will say we're in love.

We'll start expecting things  
When Nielsen shows Blue up above  
Columbia is suspecting things  
Mutual will say we're in love.

## From the Production Centres

### IN NEW YORK CITY...

George Gordon scripted the dramatic sketch last night's (Tuesday) 'Salute to Youth' program on WFAF-NBC for Goodyear... Ed Cashman, vice-president of the Foote, Cone & Belding agency in charge of the American Tobacco account, due back from the Coast next week after confabs on the Kay Kyser show... Tom Harrington, Young & Rubicam radio head, returns to Hollywood next week after a quick trip east for Christmas with his family. He'll remain until early February to launch the Walter Pidgeon show for Goodyear... J. Jello will not sponsor the daytime hour-dumb, 'Two in a Cuckoo,' so Young & Rubicam is delaying the start of the serial to determine if some other brand should bankroll it... Clayton Collier is set for the part of Jonathan Pierce, a new detective character on the 'Mystery Theatre' series Tuesday nights on WFAF-NBC for Mollie... Paulie the Goodard character Tuesday (4) on the Burns and Allen show... Harry Ackerman, radio production head of Young & Rubicam, elected a stockholder and to membership on the management board of the agency... 'Duffy,' with Ed Gardner, moves east, effective with a Jan. 4 broadcast, with Joe Hill continuing as director and Eddie Green, Florence Hallow and Charley Cantor as character coms.

W.C. Chapman James L. Fry has accepted FBI's invitation to speak at the luncheon meeting in New York Jan. 26... Pete Jaeger, sales head for Blue, entrained for Chicago Monday (27) for week in Windy City... Carl Egan played Sid Silverman on Saturday on the Burns and Allen show last week (21). The comedian is bedded with pneumonia... New publicity director of WNEW, New York, is Jo Ranson, who moves over from the NBC press department. He'll replace Bill Doyles... Bill Doyles, a R. E. telephone operators, when answering the phones last week, started by saying 'Merry Christmas'... Little Blue 'punch' dramatizing story of 'Fort Courage'... 'The Great Gatsby'... 'The Great Gatsby'... 'The Great Gatsby'...

Arthur Hanna took over directing assignments on 'Hearts in Harmony' and 'Widder Brown' latter part of last week, substituting for Martha Atwell, who was bedded with a cold... Repeating her bond selling efforts of the Third War Loan drive, Kate Saxon does a repeat around-the-clock stint over CBS for Fourth Loan on Feb. 1... Richard Curt Hottelet, former U. P. Berlin correspondent, who recently resigned from the London office of the OWI's psychological warfare division, joins the CBS European news staff Jan. 1... Lawrence Tibbett and Milton Cross were missing from 'Metropolitan Opera, U.S.A.' over the Blue last week because of attacks of flu. Gene Hamilton entered the program. Hamilton is announcer for the Boston Symphony.

Tom Fintate returned to his desk this week after being bedded for 10 days with a case of the flu. Sid Zelinka and Howard Hanson, who on the Jimmy Durante-Gary Moore CBS show, are writing a libretto for a musical comedy, for which, when they return to the Coast about March 1, will negotiate with a complete vocal cast... The CBS European news staff has had their options picked up on the radio show by William East for another 13 weeks... Three new timescripted by Howard Dicks and Vernon Duke for Vanston Freedy's 'Jackpot' musical were aired for first time on March of Thursday (23) broadcast... Fred Robbins guested Woody Herman on his Swing Class over WJIN last week. Other recent artists on the Swing Class were trumpeter Max Kaminsky, Lionel Hampton, Gene Krupa and Art Hodes.

Charles 'Bud' Barry, eastern program manager for the Blue, back at his desk after a siege of pneumonia that hit him, his wife and child... Ted Cott's new book to be published by Simon & Schuster, titled 'Victor Book of Musical Fun,' will be out early in March. He is program director at WNEW... Bill McGrath, WNEW production manager, bedded with flu... Mort Emmert, WFAF farm program director, was bedded for his first year in the post Jan. 1. He originally handled a similar program at WLW, Cincinnati.

### IN CHICAGO...

Ray Rowan, formerly with WGR, Buffalo, has been added to the WGN program staff... Milton L. Grossman, of WSM, Saginaw-Bay City, Mich., in town last week... Margaret O'Garra of the Saginaw-Bay City press, will join the McJunkin agency staff Jan. 1. She will be replaced by Francis Fininger, who left the CBS European news staff... Ray Rowan, formerly with WGN, and Ned Serrel, formerly with WCFM, have joined the WIND staff. They will be handling the musical comedy 'The Great Gatsby'... Glenn Wells, conductor on the 'Brewster Boy,' back from the Coast where he handled the musical comedy 'The Great Gatsby'... Alice Hill, Chi radio actress, has moved to Florida to be near her Navy L. hullly stationed there.

Walter Preston, WBBM-CBS program manager, down from the flu... Paul Gibson, WBBM as his 1943 Christmas special... Bar Mich, radio row bar, burned out the day before Christmas... Betty Arnold will play the feminine lead in the new Blue Network series... Peggy Byrne has resigned from the New York staff of Radio Daily to join the WBBM-CBS press dept. here after the first of the year... Joe Boland, WGN sports announcer, will be the first speaker at the annual football recognition dinner to be held at Escanaba, Mich. Jan. 6... Sen Kane, station relations manager for the NBC central division, off this week for a 10-day tour of southern NBC affiliates... Perry Mason series may switch networks, moving to NBC in the near future.

# Radio's Wartime Advances Setting Pattern for Future, Says Sarnoff

Due to the exigencies of an America at war, the radio industry may well find itself 10 years ahead of its time when final victory is won, according to David Sarnoff, RCA head and chairman of the board of NBC.

Outstanding advances in the use of radio sound and sight remain military secrets, will fit into the pattern of the future and provide vast opportunities for the industry, says Sarnoff.

In a year-end review of radio, the RCA press declared that the industry is breaking all records in production and communication. Latest estimates reveal that U.S. production is up to \$300,000,000 a month as compared to \$30,000,000 a year ago.

Greatest needs, of course, are requirements by the military. The installation of radio apparatus on all fighting fronts has been a supreme task, he said. At present, 400,000 radio-electron tubes are, manufactured daily with 60,000,000 receiving sets going full blast. Thirty-two million "radio families" get latest news from 800 broadcasting stations and there are now 14 American international short-wave transmitters in operation.

Outlining future events in a preview of 1944, Sarnoff warned that the reconversion of the industry to peace-time production would be a difficult task. He cited new inventions and ever-changing development in the related fields of electronics, television, radiothermics, superphonics and electron microscopy as challenging the ingenuity and skill of Americans but expressed confidence in their ability to overcome all obstacles.

Of television, Sarnoff said there will be no overnight transformation after the war. It will take three to six months to get the machinery in operation to resume the manufacture of civilian broadcast receivers. It may require a year after approval of standards and full authorization of commercial television by FCC before sets are available within the \$200-\$300 price range.

Since the war began in Europe, Sarnoff stated that RCA employees have increased from 23,000 to 40,000. Six thousand others are in service.

## 'BATTLE OF SEXES' GOES OFF AIR FEB. 2

Cumner Products is dropping 'Battle of the Sexes,' effective with the Feb. 2 broadcast, and will replace it with a not-yet-titled dramatic stanza about three sisters and their father, with a Chicago locale. The Young & Rubicam agency has evolved the formula for the prospective new series, but hasn't yet assigned a writer on it. In case the stanza isn't ready in time for the scheduled Feb. 9 premiere, 'Sexes' will be continued a week or two longer.

'Sexes' occupies the 8.30-9 p.m. spot Wednesday on WJZ-Blue.

## 18 More CBS Outlets For Shirer News Stanza

J. B. Williams has added 18 CBS outlets to its network for the William L. Shirer news program, scheduled Sunday evenings, 7-7:15. Increase effective Jan. 2 brings total of stations on the Shirer show to 64. Current campaign by Williams started Dec. 4 and is handled by J. Walter Thompson agency.

## Heidt Switches Sponsors, Goes From NBC to Blue

Horace Heidt takes his 'Treasure Chest' show from NBC to the Blue network starting Monday, Jan. 24. Sponsor switch is from Tums to Hires Root Beer. Program will be heard 7:30-7:50 p.m.

Show will originate on the Coast. Max Wiley, of the radio department of N. W. Ayer, agency on the account, and Wauhatchie LaHay, Ayer publicist, leave for Hollywood Jan. 6 to complete plans for the program.

San Antonio—Gordon E. Guest has been added to the announcing staff of KFRO, Longview. Bernice Johnson is the latest member of the staff side of the KFRO transmitter house as an operator.

## M'GEE TO DIRECT DUPONT 'CAVALCADE'

Harold McGee has taken over direction of Dupont's 'Cavalcade of America' Monday night show on NBC with Homer Fickett, BBDO staffer, remaining in supervisory role. McGee was brought in by the agency for this one series and will continue independent operations as producer and director of other programs.

Change in 'Cavalcade' series assignment was made to allow Fickett more time for development of new programs and new business for the agency.

Schenectady—WGY, Schenectady, has two new announcers, Ted Austin, formerly with WKNE, Keene, N. H.; WGTM, Wilson, N. C., and WFLM, Suffolk, Va., and Edward Murchie, formerly of WCHS, Portland, Me.

## FRANK KINGDON

Discusses  
'Commentators  
And Controversy'

in  
**VARIETY'S**

38th Anniversary Number  
(Post-War Show Business  
Edition)

## AUDITION 15-MINUTE 'KITCHEN-QUIZ' SHOW

Fifteen-minute 'Kitchen Quiz' program provided over by Ed East and his wife, Polly, was recorded by the Blue Network as a package show on 'Fudgy' (24) and is being offered for sponsorship. Program left the air last June.

'Kitchen Quiz' is an audience participation program with siveasys Singer on the program is Lee Sullivan, Walter Frazer produces.

# Kids Prefer Real Heroes on Air Over Dick Tracys, Say Philly Pedagogues

Philadelphia, Dec. 28. Philly radio stations received kudos last week from the radio committees of the Philadelphia School District for programs which are coordinated with school curriculum.

Palm for the 'timeliest' show is the 'United-Nations'-series-over-KYWM in which students and teachers participate in dramatizing topical news events. The radio committee's report declared that, while fight was more prevalent in teachers than in pupils. Another KYWM show netting nods from the radio committee was 'Once Upon a Time' co-sponsored by the University of Pennsylvania Museum. KYWM's Junior Town Meeting also won praises of the pedagogues.

Three WFIL shows also rated boxes, according to the report: 'Magic of Books,' beamed for elementary students; 'Music in the Air,' and 'Fibber the Flea.' Latter is a comic character used to hype patriotic drives like bond sales, War Chest, salvage etc.

The radio committee, which publishes a bulletin recommending pro-

grams for in-school and out-of-school listening, declared that school children would rather hear about real live heroes like Marine Captain Joseph Ploss (who downed 26 Zeros) than fictional characters like Superman, Dick Tracy and the like. They urged greater dramatization of the Red-and-blue heroes.

## Audition Gumps' Show, With Shippy Homer; Eyed for Sponsorship

Transcribed audition of 'The Gumps' was made last week by Harry Goodman Productions, who acquired the comic strip rights through the New York News-Chicago Tribune syndicate. Understood that a sponsor is dickering for the package show. A press book already has been issued. The cast includes Shippy Homer, Arnold Stang, Ward Wilson, Jackie Grimes and Irene Hubbard.

the  
move  
is to  
**Mutual**

by listeners, too\*



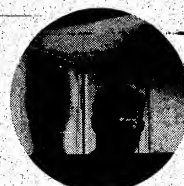
Sherlock Holmes  
for Petri Winsa  
through Young & Rubicam

HIGHEST RATING  
Monday, 8:30 p.m.



Gabriel Hatter  
for Krenl  
through Erwin, Wasey

HIGHEST RATING  
Friday, 9:00 p.m.



The Shadow  
for 'blue cool'  
through Ruthrauff & Ryan

HIGHEST RATING  
Sunday, 5:30 p.m.



\* as well as advertisers.



## CBS, NBC Summarize Banner Year. Gear Webs to Even Greater '44



A banner 1943 and better 1944 are reported and forecast by two major networks this week. Year-end reviews released by CBS and NBC cover all phases of the two major networks' 1943 activities, which, like every other business, were scarred for war- and reflected-amazing impact of wartime economic changes in nearly all activities of the webs. Topmost in each report is the accent on greatly expanded facilities installed by the nets to report news developments on all stages of the global conflict.

No actual sales figures are included in the reports, Columbia choosing to ignore that facet and NBC confining its revelation to the statement by Roy C. Wilmer, y. in charge of sales, that net 1943 figures were approximately 15% over the 1942 volume and represent a new all-time high.

Average number of NBC stations per program in 1943 jumped from 63 to 78 in the daytime and 98 to 108 at night, the reports say. Advertisers jumped from 75 to 79 and advertisers using 13 to 15 spots per week being sponsored in 1943 or more stations as against 31 shows at the beginning of 1943.

In an optimistic comment on the year's showing, Wilmer says: "There is every indication that the sales record made this year will be repeated and possibly surpassed in the months to come despite the fact that NBC's network time is now approximately 1945, only."

**CBS '43 Sponsored Shows**  
CBS' 53 sponsored shows and tents on the air from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, business but discloses that 33 sponsored shows were broadcast over the company's web and says 33 of these were the result of their full network discount plan inaugurated midway in 1942. At least three other programs are slated to accept the discount offer early in 1944, the report states. Credits the plan with adding approximately 380 hours to its weekly nationwide commercial schedule.

Ten CBS stations acquired at least 30 additional sponsored shows a week. The network gained 15 programs and 67 at least five programs through adoption of the discount offer. During the year 18 new affiliates were added to the network.

Both networks explain that manpower and material shortages hindered their progress in television but hint that "behind the scenes" developments in progress portend rapid advancement in the field with the coming of peace. Both NBC and CBS held to a four-hour-a-week schedule using time for the most part, however, in addition to this basic schedule, televised sporting and amusement events from Madison Square Garden, N. Y., for the benefit of wounded servicemen in metropolitan area hospitals where the network installed tele receivers. Plans are under way at NBC to repeat its tele studies for presentation of specially prepared feature shows.

**War Coverage**  
Both chains review their war coverage during the past year and add predictions that news staffs in all parts of the world would be augmented in 1944 to provide prompt and accurate coverage on all fronts. NBC lists Roy Porter, Max Hill and Edwin Hunter as the newest additions to their foreign news staff. Charles C. Shaw, and Richard C. Holstein, while CBS news manager of the RCA department of news, switches over as RCA director of advertising and publicity.

Shifts follow previous moves in which Charles P. Hammond was named as RCA's second vice president as NBC director of advertising and promotion while Brown became advertising manager of the RCA-Victor division.

### 25% CBS BOOST ON NET VOLUME SALES

Aided by the rather sweeping rise in radio advertising during the last three months, Columbia Broadcasting System now estimates that the net dollar volume of sales will increase 25% over 1942. Previously the estimate was for a 20% rise. In the first nine months this year CBS listed 115 commercial ad accounts as against 108 in the previous year.

Net earnings for the company for the 39 weeks ended last Oct. 2 totaled \$3,245,628 as compared with \$2,845,724 in the corresponding 1942 period. This would indicate total net for 1943 of around \$4,500,000, or slightly under.

taining with commercial programs amounting to 1,788 hours—approximately 45% of total sponsored operating time on the network. NBC lists no breakdown of war slanted broadcasts but says war effort activity on the network increased 1943 over 1942.

Bond sales drives, shortwave shows to troops abroad, sports coverage, educational, public service and music appreciation broadcasts, short wave listening posts and other features of the year's accomplishments are described in the two reports.

The CBS review also lists a number of its outstanding commercial programs and describes its national advertising campaign via newspapers and other media and points to 14 CBS-49 programs which were sold during the year. The report also lists a number of awards won by CBS in various types of radio competition throughout the year.

### Blue Sales Up 60% Over '42; \$26,000,000 B.O.

The Blue Network. In its first year as an independent chain since its purchase by Edward J. Noble, the network's gross revenue for 1942, upped its revenue to \$26,000,000 and expanded its listener audience by 640,000 listeners to 23,558,000, according to the Blue's inventory of the year.

The chain for the first time secured outlets in Worcester, Huntington, W. Va.; Columbus, Waterbury, Conn.; Bedford, Mass.; Superior, Wis., and Atlantic City. In addition coverage in Southern states was expanded by additions of outlets in Macon and Columbia, Ga.; Amarillo and Temple, Tex.; Jackson, Tenn.; Gulfport, Miss.; Frederickburg, and Covington, Ky.; Florence, S. C., and the Texas A. & M. Station at College Station. The net strengthened its position in the Great Lakes area with outlets in Grand Rapids, Sault Ste. Marie, Muskegon, Escanaba and Saginaw, all part of the Michigan State Network. Pacific Coast coverage was increased with affiliation with KPRO which embraces the Riverside-San Bernardino area. WJW, Cleveland, became a full-time Blue affiliate.

The web also upped the number of sponsored hours from 2,887 in January to 5,178 in December as compared to 2,794 a year ago December.

New shows included the Philco-Variety "Radio Hall of Fame"; the All-Chalmers sponsorship of the Boston Symphonic concerts and RCA's "What's New" program.

### HEATH, DUNLAP FIGURE IN NBC-RCA SHIFTS

In a series of NBC-RCA shifts, Horton H. Heath has resigned as director of advertising and publicity to become assistant to Frank Mullen, NBC vice-president and general manager, while Gray S. Dunlap, news manager of the RCA department of news, switches over as RCA director of advertising and publicity. Shifts follow previous moves in which Charles P. Hammond was named as RCA's second vice president as NBC director of advertising and promotion while Brown became advertising manager of the RCA-Victor division.

Heath first became associated with RCA in 1931 as assistant manager of the department of information while Dunlap was former radio editor of the New York Times.

Chief Thomas KKOK Mgr.

St. Louis, Dec. 28.  
Chester L. (Chel) Thomas has been made manager of KKOK, owned and operated by The St. Louis Star-Times, p.m. rag, for seven years manager of KFRU, also owned by the newspaper; also held an executive position with the parent station here.  
Thomas succeeds Clarence Cosby, resigned.

MILTON BERLE  
Discourse on  
'Pity the Poor Comedian!'

A Feature of the  
38th Anniversary Number in  
VARIETY  
(Post-War Show-Business  
Edition)

OUT NEXT WEEK

### MBS 'Opportunity' Show Makes Bow on Jan. 14; U. S. Toppers as Judges

Chicago, Dec. 28.  
"Freedom of Opportunity" new show sponsored by Mutual Broadcasting and Accident A. of Omaha, will bow over Mutual Jan. 14. Program will be aired Fridays 7:30-8 p.m. (CWT) over 80 stations. Contract went through Arthur Meyerhoff agency, Chicago.

Format of show is to have 10 distinguished judges select the 10 outstanding young men of the nation and dramatize their lives. Original list from which the 10 will be selected will be drawn from the ranks of National Junior A's, of Commencement winners. Judges on the board will be Paul Hoffman of Studebaker; J. Edgar Hoover, FBI head; Dale Carnegie; Thomas Watson, International Business Machine Corp.; Mrs. Dwight Eisenhower; Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick; Ben Hibbs, Set Ewe Post editor; Richard Mottley, American Magazine editor; William Green, A. F. of L. proxy, and W. A. Patterson, American Airlines.

Each of the 10 winners will receive a scroll of honor and a gold key from the U. S. of C. with the number one man of the 10 rising a diamond key and the title of the outstanding young business man of America.

## Ex-WPEN Aide DXing for Nazis

Philadelphia, Dec. 28.  
George Gerhardt, former director of German programs on WPEN, made speeches on Nazi short wave stations beamed at the U. S. from Berlin, it was revealed here last week.

This disclosure was made in Federal Court at proceedings instituted by the Government in an effort to prove Karl Scherzberg, local real estate dealer, was a dangerous alien and as such to be excluded from the Eastern seaboard.

Scherzberg admitted, according to Army Intelligence officers that he attended broadcasts in Berlin at which Gerhardt, was the principal speaker. Gerhardt was first by the operators of WPEN in 1938 when anti-Nazi Germans complained he was using Nazi propaganda plugs in his commercials.

### Woolley Returning To Air—But Chin Folio Gags Are Verboten

Jokes about Monty Woolley's chin folio will be deleted out of soon-to-be Woolley shorts in as headman on the Old Gold show with Sammy Kaye, Jan. 3. However, writers headed by Ed Etlinger, have permission for The Beard to inhibit anyone else on the show. "Bob Burns will be the first guest under the new format."

Murray Holland will continue to produce for J. Walter Thompson. Show emanates in the east until late January when Woolley goes back to the Coast for film work.

### WSNY's 'Dollar' Show

"Dialing for Dollars" is the title of a new nightly 15-hour show on WSNY, Schenectady, sponsored by the Central Super Markets chain.  
Gene Graves makes the phone calls (money pyramids with each one incomplete or at which the listener fails to identify the sponsor) and sings with records.

These ads are just one part of the continuous promotional campaign by which KSTP is strengthening its grip on Minnesota's bulging rural pocketbook. Other current promotional activities include:

1. Personal appearances of KSTP's Barn Dance group in Minnesota towns.
2. Big ad in "The Farmer" (Minnesota farm circulation 147,000).
3. Full-page ads in "Land-O'-Lakes News" reaching 65,000 Minnesota farms.
4. "On the Minnesota Farm Front" (column by Harry Appleby, KSTP's Farm Service Director) published weekly by 81 country newspapers.
5. "Around Radio News" (radio news-and-gossip column) published weekly by 76 country newspapers.

All of which means that in addition to our effective and economical coverage of the Twin Cities—Minnesota's primary market—KSTP gives you a *paying* plus in the form of a rapidly-increasing rural audience.

50,000 WATTS

Clear Channel

Exclusive NBC Affiliate for the Twin Cities

KSTP  
MINNEAPOLIS ST. PAUL

Represented nationally by  
Edward Perry and Company

## GEORGIA GBDS

Featured in

Jimmy Durante-Garry Moore Show

for Camel Cigarettes every Friday over CBS, 10 P.M. EWT

My Sincerest Thanks

TO

Owens-Illinois Glass Co., sponsor of "Broadway Melinae"

Woodbury Facial Soap and their "Chamber Music Society of Lower Basin Street."

The Philco Corporation for my forthcoming appearance January 2nd on its "Radio Hall of Fame."

Management: WILLIAM MORRIS

Facility: ROSS ASSOCIATES

# 90% of Network Adv. in Papers Make Grade Despite Newsprint Cut

Despite the continued newsprint shortage, newspapers have managed to place upward of 90% of network advertising.

NBC's "Parade of Stars" campaign, which ran Sept. 24 through Oct. 7, called for daily insertions, ads to coincide with the program was followed up with the second week's insertions after the campaign was over.

Campaign, which ran in every newspaper in Los Angeles, Denver, Cleveland and Washington, was followed up by a "payoff" ad during how NBC program ratings were affected by the two-week ad schedule. Several of these were knocked down from full pages to 1,000 lines, and release dates were optional.

The net's latest promotion, plugging WEAP in New York as "660 on your Dial," is set over a three-month period and will run through January. To far, there have been only two ads dropped by the seven city dailies in 72 scheduled insertions. Including Newark, where the campaign is set for January through March, ads will total over 1,000,000 lines.

Reports from Mutual and CBS indicate a similar trend with optional release dates, reduced linage and a few eliminations the usual procedure.

Ad managers for stations have found the going a little rougher.

## PACT 'EXCLUSIVES' — ON CUBS, SOX GAMES

Chicago, Dec. 28.

Radical departure from the established custom of several Chicago stations carrying baseball broadcasts throughout the season was seen with WIND-WJLD signing both the Cubs and the Sox to an exclusive broadcasting contract for the 1944 period. Ralph Atlas, owner of the stations, signed both teams with the idea of appealing both periods to a national sponsor.

Deal calls for WIND to air all Sox games both at home and in other towns with the exception of night games away from home. WJLD will broadcast all Cub games both in and out of town. WJLD team does not play night games. Last year WGN, WCFL and WIND broadcast baseball.

## CBS-CIAA to Put On 'Viva America' Series

New show titled "Viva America" is slated to make its preem early in January on CBS. It'll be on with the cooperation of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs. Show will be the first CBS usage of shortwave talent on a domestic program.

Orech titled the "Pan American" and singer, Enrico, both used exclusively for shortwave shows in the past, will make up the program, which will be aired Sundays, 11:30-12 p.m.

## Kaufman, WCAE Ex-Mgr., Loses His Son in Navy

Pittsburgh, Dec. 28.

Ensign David Kaufman, son of Jesse L. Kaufman, former manager of WCAE here and one-time Hearst radio executive in New York and Indianapolis, was killed Dec. 13 when his plane crashed at Pensacola, Fla., where he was an aviation instructor at the naval air base.

Young Kaufman had been in the service since July, 1942. He graduated from Pensacola last June. His parents now live in Bradenton, Fla.

## Raymer Charters Corp.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 28.

Paul R. Raymer Co., Inc., has been chartered to conduct a radio broadcasting business in New York. Capital stock is 200 shares, no par value. Directors are Paul H. Raymer, Chicago, and Fred C. Brokaw and Pierce R. Romaine, N. Y. No shareholders are listed in papers filed with the Secretary of State.

Jack Costello, of commercial radio, is "John Patrick Costello" when he announces "The Catholic Hour" over NBC.

(A) WOL  
Washington, Dec. 28.

"A woman" applied for a department store job here, but said she couldn't report for work before 10:30 a.m.

Asked why, she explained that she never misses Joy Caldwell's giveaway show, "Mr. Moneybags," broadcast daily over WOL.

## Lewis Leaving CBS For Amer. Network Exec Post

William B. Lewis now making a program survey for CBS to test listener likes and dislikes, leaves at the end of March to take up duties as vice-president and general manager of the American Network, Inc., an outfit composed of frequency modulation stations.

Lewis came to CBS early in August and starts his new job April 1.

# Philly Newspapers Dropping Swap Ad Deals With Stations; Cash-On-Line

Philadelphia, Dec. 28.

Philly's two morning newspapers last week notified radio stations that their swap-time-space agreements would expire the end of the year.

Hereafter, the Inquirer and Record said, any ads taken by the outlets would be on a cash-on-the-barrel-basis.

The Daily News and the Bulletin evening papers, are expected to follow suit shortly. The morning dailies took this action, they said, because of the newsprint shortage. Thousands of lines of cash-paid ads have been forced out of the paper.

Radio newspaper promotion will be hard-hit by the move. Philly out-

lets are already faced with a publicity famine in Philly dailies with the elimination of all radio columns. The stations had been forced to sell their programs exclusively through advertising.

Excess of some of the stations affected said they would spend just as much for newspaper space as the dailies spent for their plugs.

Philly radio stations are believed to be the first in making swap ad deals with newspapers. The stunt has become standard business practice throughout the nation.

Fargo, N. D.—Maurice Waller has joined announcing staff at WDAY.



5-SECOND  
News Flash

To the authoritative news reports supplied through the world-wide facilities of PRESS ASSOCIATION and TRANS RADIO PRESS, WCAU now adds the three wires of UNITED PRESS—Local Wire Newspaper Wire and Radio Wire—assuring coverage of all the news... fast—accurate—complete.

WCAU 50,000 Watts  
Philadelphia





# Inside Stuff—Radio

"NBC Handbook of Pronunciation," a 288-page volume compiled by James P. Bender, chairman of the Department of Speech at Queens College and director of the Queens Speech and Hearing Service Center, has just come off the press. Book, published by Thomas Y. Crowell Co., has been especially designed as a quick reference for announcers to assure correct, standard pronunciation in their broadcasts.

Containing 12,000 words that figure in the war news, names of famous people, musical terms and thousands of everyday pronunciation demands, the new encyclopedic volume is a three-way approach to correct pronunciation, showing the way a word sounds, how it is spelled, and the proved scientific pronunciation key.

Recent facelifting at CBS' N. Y. headquarters has moved James Fasset's music division from the 18th to the 17th floor and brought Dr. Loman Bryson, director of education, from the 9th to the 18th to be on the same floor with Douglas Coulter, v.p. in charge of programs. Other office switches are in the works. Private sanctuaries for news analysts and reporters are being readied in the 17th floor newsroom, and Prof. W. Cabell Greet has been installed on the same floor so news mikes can crush up on their pronunciations, syntax and enunciation with ease. Press info recently dropped from the 17th to 6th floor, and CBS also has leased space at 501 Madison avenue for program records and analysis divisions of the Research Dept.

The statement delivered by Niles Trammell, president of NBC, before the Senate Interstate Commerce committee, Dec. 7-8, during hearings on the White-Wheeler bill amending the Communications Act of 1934 has been printed in booklet form by the network for distribution throughout the industry, to newspapers and others interested in the proposed legislation. Titled "Radio Must Remain Free," the booklet contains Trammell's complete statement as well as four exhibits referred to in his appearance before the committee.

Outgrowth of a surprise, Simon Barere, concert pianist, will guest on the NBC Concert orchestra stanza on Sunday (2) afternoon (12-12:30 p.m.). Barere had been listening to the Dec. 11 shortwave broadcast of the "Varieties" program from Algiers and was startled to hear the announcer that his 21-year-old pianist son, Cpl. Simon Barere, Jr., would play. It was the first inkling Barere had as to where his son was stationed.

As a return favor, the father will play one of his son's favorites, the Liszt's Piano Concerto in E Flat.

Baukhage, in his Wednesday noon (22) commentary from Washington over the Blue, commented on "Variety's" report of what Eric Sevareid (of CBS) said about the glib talk sent to American service men on far distant fronts, "and how civilians are winning the war". Baukhage related the incident of how Sevareid had been dunned in a Burma jungle, bringing in the "Variety" story while discussing the waste in war and the "mis-handling" by certain federal officials of the railway men's case.

## New Lombardo Show Starts on Blue Jan. 16

Guy Lombardo and his orchestra will be featured on a new show starting Sunday, Jan. 16, from 10:30 to 11 p.m. (EWT) over 70 stations of the Blue, sponsored by Larus & Bros. (Chelsea cigarette-Edgeworth tobacco).

Title of the program has not been decided. Warwick & Legier is agency.

Lombardo recently completed a stint on "Three Ring Time" for Baltimore Beer, heard Monday nights from 10:30 to 11 (EWT) over CBS.

## Blue's 'Saludos' Now DX'd to S.A.

Latin-American versions of "Saludos Amigos." Blue show, put on by the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, Monday (11:30 to 12 p.m.) are now being shortwaved to countries below the border.

First show shortwaved with Spanish continuity was heard in Latin America some four months ago, but response was so heavy that it is now being adopted as general policy. Victoria Cordova, singer, and Paul Vallee's orch. do the show, with Arnold Moss as m.c.

### Edw. C. Hill Sked

Edwin C. Hill has been added as a regular feature of the Fighting Coast Guard program, aired Thursdays, 7:30 to 8 p.m. on the Blue Network. Each week Hill will speak on some phase of Coast Guard activity.

Although the program originates in Washington, Hill's portion of the show will be picked up from New York.

## N. Y. Area Goes on 7-Day-A-Week Tele Schedule Starting Sunday (2)

Television on a seven-days-a-week schedule in the New York area beginning Sunday (2) was assured metropolitan set owners with a change in tele broadcasting times at NBC. The network also skedded its first tele boxing program from Madison Square Garden, N. Y., tonight (Wed.) when Bob Stanton is slated to describe the full program of Mike Jacobs' fistic presentation for the hear-see camera.

Effective Mon. (3) NBC's metropolitan television station, WNBC, will split its regular weekly four-hour sked, heretofore broadcast only on Monday, and will transmit tele news films and film feature programs Mondays and Saturdays, 8 to 10 p.m. Only deviation from this schedule, the network explained, will be when Madison Square Garden sports events fall on either of those nights.

When boxing, hockey, basketball or other Garden affairs take place on other nights NBC will increase its tele time to allow for the regular Monday and Saturday spots as well as the live sports shows programmed for the benefit of ailing servicemen hospitalized in and about New York.

New NBC setup plugs the Saturday night-half-in-New-York-tele-coverage. Starting Jan. 2 Dumont programs will be broadcast Sundays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays with CBS on Thursdays and Fridays and WNBC active the other two days.

Tonight's boxing tele show was set up through an arrangement with Gillette and WOR-Mutual, which hold radio broadcasting rights to the Jacobs-promoted fights and it's understood future bouts also will be telecast although no arrangement has yet been concluded for the entire

lineup of fights. Only those bouts chosen by the promoter will be made available to WNBC.

Because the entire Gillette-Mutual sports staff is tied up this week preparing for four New Year's Day Bowl football games being sponsored by the razor company, Don Dunphy and Bill Corum, regular fight announcers, will not be on the air tonight from the Garden, giving WNBC the sole other rights to the program. In the future, however, when Garden bouts are televised the regular WOR-Mutual crew also will be on hand for the sponsored "sound only" broadcasts.

## NBC SYMPH'S XMAS CONCERT FOR KIDDIES

For the third year in a row NBC is presenting a special Christmas concert for children by Leopold Stokowski and the NBC Symphony orch tomorrow (30). Some 1,200 school children have been invited to attend in NBC's N. Y. studio 8-H.

Only half of the 60-minute concert will be broadcast (12:30 p.m.) with the rest being strictly a studio performance for the youngsters. Included in the airline portion will be selections from the "Nutcracker Suite," Grieg's "Arlina's Dancer" and "Mountain Gnomes and Goblins" and "Silent Night" to be sung by the youthful audience.

Portland, Ore.—Don Kneass, news editor, and Jack Eichenberger, director of publicity and sales promotion, at KGW-KEX, Arms-Bound

## Portraits FOR TUESDAY

Current favorite among WLW advertisers and their agencies is "The Listening Finger Points", Hooper's portfolio on all radio listening in the great Middle West. The vivid picture it portrays of the dominance they enjoy on The Nation's Station probably accounts for the fact that

MORE ADVERTISERS SPEND MORE MONEY TO SELL MORE MERCHANDISE TO MORE PEOPLE ON WLW THAN ON ANY OTHER RADIO STATION IN THE WORLD.



*Jerry Colonna Bob Hope*



*Fibber McCreck Molly Ranson Reeves*



*Warner Hilliard Red Skelton*



*Jimmy Canning*

**WLW**

THE NATION'S MOST MERCHANDISE-ABLE STATION  
DIVISION OF THE CLEVELAND CORPORATION





## Inside Stuff—Orchestras—Music

Story that the ASCAP board had turned down a \$10,000 bonus to Fred Albert for his part in forming the Leslie-Albert plan, the new ASCAP rating system that goes into effect Jan. 1, '44, was only partially correct, according to John G. Paine, general manager of the Society. Correct angle is that Deems Taylor, ASCAP's proxy, suggested that Albert be given a \$10,000 bonus for his past three years' work as chairman of the relief committee.

The board of directors did turn down the suggestion, but, according to Paine, the Albert plan was never mentioned. Reason for the mixing was because the directors didn't want any money to go with the chairmanship of any committee, lest it set a precedent.

Paramount, N. Y., began advertising the presence of Gene Krupa in Tommy Dorsey's band this week. And in various dailies are the first such attention Krupa has gotten since he gave up his own orchestra. In all the time he was with Benny Goodman at the New Yorker hotel, N. Y., no mention was made of him in advertising.

Krupa will stay with Dorsey's band, going to the Coast with it in February.

Teddy Waters returned to the Tommy Dorsey band last week in time to open the Paramount theatre, N. Y., with it Wednesday (22). His dispute with Dorsey's band has not been settled, but he rejoined the outfit pending the ironing of the difficulties. Dorsey wanted Waters to sign a three-year contract and the vocalist's manager, Jack Gage, countered with a six months' deal. Dorsey couldn't see it that way, since he is using Waters on his new Ford radio program and in Metro pictures and didn't want to lose him too quickly following such a buildup.

## Bands at Hotel B. O.'s

(Presented herewith, as a weekly tabulation, is the estimated cover charge business being done by name bands in various New York hotels. Dinner business (not included). Figures after start of hotel fire, room capacity and cover charge. Larger amount designated weekend and holiday price. Compilation is based on period from Monday to Saturday.)

Band	Hotel	Weeks	Cover	Total
Ray Heatherton	Biltmore (400; \$1-\$150)	28	1,200	35,500
Lani McIntire	Lexington (300; \$1-\$150)	98	1,150	175,000
Sonny Dunham	New Yorker (400; \$1-\$150)	7	2,125	4,500
Charlie Spivak	Pennsylvania (500; \$1-\$150)	1	3,925	3,925
Xavier Cugat	Waldorf (550; 22)	0	11,250	1,525
Sam Basile	Lanolin (275; \$1-\$150)	7	1,625	11,725
Guy Lombardo	Roosevelt (400; \$1-\$150)	12	2,150	27,975
Eric Madriguera	Commodore (400; \$1-\$150)	6	1,400	8,025
Sam Lyman	Essex House (300; \$1-\$150)	0	1,150	5,000

\* Asterisks indicate a supporting floor show. New Yorker and Biltmore have late shows. Waldorf has Anniversary Dickey and Rudenko & Zorich.

## Tommy Dorsey 80C, J. Dorsey 13C, Sock, N. Y., Herman Wow 23C, Newark

(Estimates for New York State)

**Gene Krupa, New York (Hotel):** \$450; 25-\$110.—With Phil Rizzo and Johnny Burke on stage and "Thousand Cheers" (44-63) on radio. Extended run of picture at Astor across the street during last no doubt holding this down to \$35,000 or under, good.

**Milt Brittan, Providence (Metropolitan):** 3,200; 36-58.—With "Smart Guy" (Mon), and "My Kismet" on stage. Not too bad at \$5,000 in three-day weekend run.

**Tommy Dorsey, New York (Roxey):** 5,885; 25-\$110.—With Bill Robinson in person, and "Gang's All Here" (20th). In order to round out year evenly, week is being reeled on books as starting Saturday (Xmas) and extending through New Year's eve when \$2.00 will be charged; on these seven days looks a mighty \$146,000, second highest ever scored by Dorsey. Initial three days, last Wednesday—Thursday—Friday, was \$77,000, which on the old basis of weeks makes \$113,000, not first seven days through last night (Tuesday).

**Tommy Dorsey, New York (Paramount):** 3,884; 35-\$110.—With "Riding High" (Park). Sock b.o. combination of picture and the Dorsey band accounted for a very big \$60,000 on first week concluded last night (Tuesday) despite the fact that the three days were in the pre-Xmas period.

**Benny Goodman, Philadelphia (Orphe):** 2,700; 35-\$45.—With "Crane Doctor's Strange Case" (Col). Wow \$70,000, with band getting big-play from youngsters.

**Glen Gray, New York (Strand):** 2,76; 35-\$110.—With Willie Howard, in person, and "Norman Panama" (WB). In fifth (final) week looking \$37,000, good. Run has been highly profitable.

**Woody Herman, Newark (Adams):** 1,526; 35-59.—With "Mr. Mugs Steps Out" (Mon) plus Paul Winchel, Marion Daniels, on stage. Scaling to about \$23,000, with new house reeling, bang up on both Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Band is big power at gate.

**Richard Minter, New York (Capitol):** 4,820; 35-\$110.—With Grayson, Lou Holtz, others, in person, and "Guy Named Joe" (M-G). Stage support for picture contributing to smash \$70,000 or near.

**Jack Teagarden, San Francisco (Golden Gate):** 2,850; 55-75.—With

"Government Girl" (RKO). Picture is in second week, held first for the band. Teagarden outfit credited with keeping take up to \$25,000.

**Jerry Wald, Boston (RKO Boston):** 3,200; 44-59.—Plus Patricia Morrison, Chaz Chase, Samuels Brothers, others on stage, and "Parson's Deep Mystery" (RKO). Wald probably opening for rising level of biz to net \$23,000 following offish weeks.

## REG CONNELLY

Observes  
'Most Big War Songs Are Not Written As War Songs'

in  
**VARIETY'S**  
38th Anniversary Edition  
**Post-War Show Business**  
Number

## Dorsey Vs. Dorsey Big B.O. on B'way

This week is Dorsey week on Broadway. Between them the brothers, opposing each other at the Paramount and Roxy, will draw almost \$200,000. Jimmy, at the Roxy, a larger theatre by 2,220 seats (\$5,885), drew approximately \$113,000 a week, over, and Tommy, at the Paramount (3,664), rounded up about \$86,000. Film at the Roxy is "Gang's All Here" (20th) and "Riding High" (Par) is at the Paramount. Both were generally

panned by daily reviewers, with, despite strong holiday week, business following Xmas, but additional jam on the two bands. Jimmy and Tommy Dorsey's bands have never directly opposed one another in Broadway theatres prior to this date. About five years ago, however, the two brothers were pitted against one another at the Pennsylvania and New Yorker hotels. Tommy at the former and Jimmy, the latter. About a year and a half ago Jimmy was playing the Strand theatre, N. Y. part of the time Tommy was about the bandstand at the Astor hotel, N. Y., a short distance away.

Dorsey brothers were once no material, breaking-up during a run at Glen Island Casino. Tommy formed his own band and Jimmy retained the one they co-led. Had there been any betting, odds against both eventually becoming top b.o. names they would probably have set a long-shot record. The odds against any one particular band reaching top heights are prohibitive, yet both Dorsey's are among the nation's first five b.o. mainstays.

## Major Recording Companies Already Preparing for Post-War Biz Boom

**Bob Allen's Band**  
In Jan. 1 Breakup

Bob Allen's musicians refused to gamble with his induction-physical, which is scheduled for next Wednesday and as a result he has put the entire band on notice. Allen, according to General Amisnewich, his agent, wanted his men to wait and see what his status would be following the physical, but they refused and he had no alternative but to disband. His last date will be at Sunburb Hallroom, Pelletstown, Pa., Friday (New Year's Eve).

If he's rejected GAG says, Allen will try to reorganize and failing in that will go to work as a singer.

Allen's industry intimates friends that he would break up his orchestra when his physical was imminent and it would remain disbanded even if he were rejected. He must have since changed his mind, since the agency's story differs.

## Decca to Boost Disc Releases

Decca will begin a release policy after the first of the year calling for four and five discs weekly as against its current policy of one and two weekly. Increase in weekly marketing is due, it's said, to bandleader squawks. Many bands have recorded for Decca since the latter resumed recording two months ago and much of the stuff has not seen the light of counters and coin machines. Since Decca's leaders, like those on other labels, have had little or no discs on the market since the beginning of the record ban, they have been pressuring the company to get the new material in circulation.

Decca will proceed with the policy of four and five discs a week, and it has assured dealers and distributors it will, the only thing accomplished will be more releases. It will force the manufacturer to lessen the number of copies pressed on each individual recording as a means of margining a wider variety of names. It's understood that under the new policy Decca will press only the initial batch on each disc and will not accept orders beyond that total.

Various disc companies are already formulating plans for postwar operation. Decca is already making a deal whereby it took possession of the Gemnet Piano Co. plant at Richmond, Va., and it is planning to make a pressing plant for the war, Victor—also a production layout in India and a similar deal in England. The pressing discs for same time, among them some product for Decca.

Columbia, which has been a post-war business, which is expected to boom. Company's head, Ted Welford, said that he expects to see the N. Y. office, are due to depart for the Coast about Jan. 15 to look over the western area with a view toward post-war operation.

In addition to the activity being shown by the majors, there are the numerous reports of companies need disc outlets due to get going after the war. Many of these, of course, will remain rumors, but record executives definitely expect a flood of new companies.

**Expert Shellar Increases**  
Government is expected to increase the shellac allocations to record manufacturers. The industry is the diskers the privilege of buying up supplies now in warehouses. Now working with 20% of the dollar each company consumed pre-war, the increases will allow each company to use any surplus of their pre-war consumption, but it must be bought from government stocks, and cannot be used for the consumer's own supplies.

When the U. S. first rationed shellac, the manufacturers of records and the manufacturers to retain possession of the supplies each had on hand and regularly their directors were issued controlling the amount that could be used. The allowance was changed two months ago and at one point it was only 5% of pre-war consumption. For the past six months, however, it has been raised to 20%, which, it's understood, will be continued. Additional 30% will be allowed if it can be shown that companies buy it from the government.

Increased shellac allocations cannot be used by manufacturers for production. Manpower shortage is too critical. It will, however, promote the production of more efficient and longer-lasting discs than those that have been issued since the start of the war.

## T. DORSEY IN MGMT. DEAL WITH MICHAUD

Tommy Dorsey and Arthur Michaud completed a deal last week whereby Michaud takes over personal management of the Dorsey orchestra for a period of five years. Terms of the arrangement were not revealed, and it does not become effective until Saturday (1). Michaud managed Dorsey once before, the association ending about six years ago.

Michaud replaces Leonard Vannerson as director of the Dorsey interests, but will not travel with the band as Vannerson did. Dave Jacobs, road manager, who succeeded Jack Johnstone recently after being released from the Army, will retain that spot.

Deal doesn't disturb Michaud's other band managerial interests.

## Jimmy Dorsey Plans USO Overseas Tour

Jimmy Dorsey's orchestra will tour overseas for USO-Camp Shows if plans fall.

Following his current date at the Roxy, N. Y., Dorsey has couple of out-of-town dates and then goes into the Sherman hotel, Chicago, for three weeks. After that will come the overseas jaunt.

## N. Y. Park Central Sets Beckner's Novelty Crew

Though the Park Central hotel, N. Y., had apparently been after the strongest band name available for its Casino Grove, it has succeeded in securing Danny Beckner, leader of a novelty combination, to follow the current Shelly Fields. Beckner is currently in New Orleans, agitated by Stan Zukor.

It's said that the booking is the result of a personal trip by Harry Lanner, owner of the P.C., to New Orleans, where he auditioned the group.

# Your Best Salesman In All Markets— Present and Future

OUT  
NEXT WEEK  
(January 5, 1944)

38th ANNIVERSARY  
**VARIETY**  
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POST-WAR  
SHOW BUSINESS  
NUMBER

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CHICAGO 1.  
514 W. Randolph St.

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# Our Hit Songs of 1943

We extend our gratitude to the writers and to the entire profession for their important part in making 1943 so successful for our three firms . . . May 1944 bring Peace and Happiness to all.

I'VE HEARD THAT SONG BEFORE

from the R. P. S. Picture "YOUTH ON PARADE"

Words and Music by  
HULE STYNE  
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WHY DON'T YOU DO RIGHT

Let's All Sing Along With  
Words and Music by JOE MCCOY

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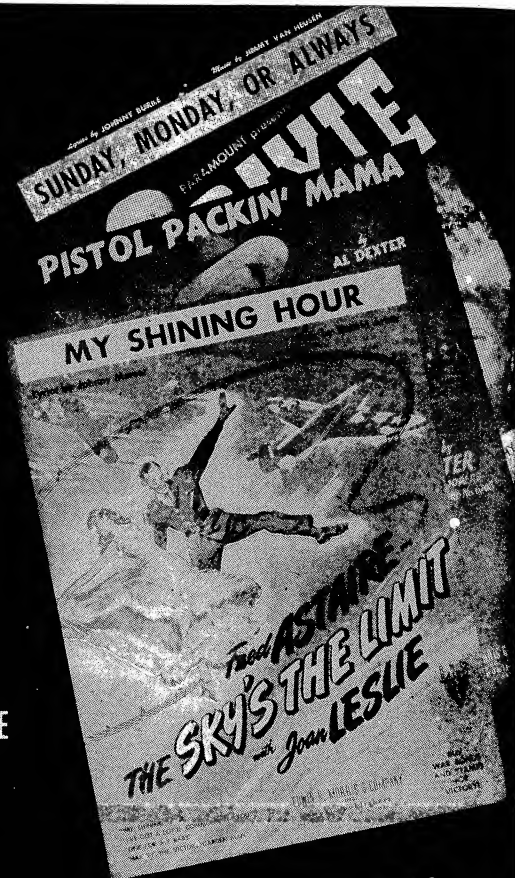
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The Original  
BOOGIE WOOGIE

PIRRO SOLO

by  
Clarence  
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**I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS**  
(IF ONLY IN MY DREAMS)

Words and Music  
by  
RIM GANNON  
WALTER REUT  
BUCK RAM



**LET'S BRING NEW GLORY TO OLD GLORY**

Words by  
MACK GORDON  
Music by  
HARRY WARREN

**BLUE RAIN**

**THERE WILL NEVER BE ANOTHER YOU**

Words by  
MACK GORDON  
Music by  
HARRY WARREN

**THE HONEY SONG**  
(“HONEY, I’M IN LOVE WITH YOU”)

AS INTRODUCED AND RECORDED BY  
LOUISE MASSEY  
AND THE WESTERNERS

WORDS AND MUSIC BY  
ARBIE GIBSON AND CURT MASSEY

## Greeting 1944 with

**MY SHINING HOUR**

Johnny Mercer

Harold Arlen

**SAN FERNANDO VALLEY**

Gordon Jenkins

**ARKANSAS**

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**ONE FOR MY BABY**

Johnny Mercer

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**SUNKISSED DAYS AND MOONKISSED NIGHTS**

Al Hoffman

Milton Berle

Jerry Livingston

**I’LL BE AROUND**

Alice Wilder

**THE HONEY SONG**

Arbie Gibson

Curt Massey

**MUSIC CORPORATION • MELROSE MUSIC CORPORATION**



*Robbins  
is in stride  
again!  
Starting the  
new year  
with three  
proven  
hit songs!*

FOLLOW THE ROBBINS PARADE OF HITS • FOLLOW THE ROBBINS PARADE OF HITS



# THE MUSIC STOPPED

Lyrics by HAROLD ADAMSON

Music by JIMMY McHUGH

FOLLOW THE ROBBINS PARADE OF HITS • FOLLOW THE ROBBINS PARADE OF HITS

# Don't Believe Everything You Dream

Lyrics by HAROLD ADAMSON

Music by JIMMY McHUGH

FOLLOW THE ROBBINS PARADE OF HITS • FOLLOW THE ROBBINS PARADE OF HITS

# Do Nothin' Till You Hear From Me

Lyrics by BOB RUSSELL

Music by DUKE ELLINGTON

FOLLOW THE ROBBINS PARADE OF HITS • FOLLOW THE ROBBINS PARADE OF HITS

**ROBBINS MUSIC CORPORATION**

799 Seventh Avenue, New York

MURRAY BAKER, Gen. Prof. Mgr.







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*now with* **GAC**

# MARION HUTTON

*Glenn Miller's Singing Star*

Under exclusive management of General Amusement Corporation since December 22nd, 1943

# TED FIO RITO

*and His Orchestra*

Under exclusive management of General Amusement Corporation beginning May 17th, 1944

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*and His Orchestra*

Under exclusive management of General Amusement Corporation beginning January 1st, 1944

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# 38th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER

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# VARIETY

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PRICE 25 CENTS

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10 years' superb  
co-operation



**LUX  
RADIO  
THEATRE**

• Since 1934 acclaimed "the best dramatic program" by radio critics and millions of regular listeners, for 10 years winner of top honors, the Lux Radio Theatre again says: "Thank you, Hollywood!" You have made it possible for the Lux Radio Theatre to bring thrilling entertainment by the finest dramatic artists in the world into American homes from coast to coast. To stars, writers, studios, directors, producers, newspapers, magazines, trade papers and to the hundreds of technicians who have helped "behind the scenes"—the Lux Radio Theatre offers a special vote of thanks. A "Thank you" to each and every one for his part in making the Lux Radio Theatre for ten years the highest rating dramatic hour on the air!

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DIRECTED BY

**CECIL B. DEMILLE**

LOUIS SILVERS, MUSICAL DIRECTOR

MONDAYS, 9 P.M. NEW YORK TIME, WABC AND COAST-TO-COAST COLUMBIA NETWORK



*The Most Famous Hat In  
the Entertainment Ring!*

# TED LEWIS

*and his Orchestra*

**BREAKING ALL RECORDS AT DAVE WOLPER'S HURRICANE, N. Y.**

**Originally booked for 6 weeks and after 10 days, held over for 6 more weeks... run has now been extended for an additional 10 weeks! 22 weeks in all from an initial 6 weeks booking.**

**(Engagement Ends April First)**

Starring in  
**"IS EVERYBODY HAPPY?"**  
A COLUMBIA PICTURE  
(Just Released)

Also Appearing In  
**"THREE CHEERS FOR THE BOYS"**  
A UNIVERSAL PICTURE  
(To Be Released)

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